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THE TIMES

No. 66,301 TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8 1998 http://www.the-times.co.uk







LAST CHANCE TO PLAY FANTASY LEAGUE FOOTBALL PAGES 46 AND 47 £100,000 TO BE WON

Tories urged to settle simmering row

Hague calls snap ballot on the euro

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, ROLAND WATSON AND JAMES LANDALE

WILLIAM HAGUE called a snap ballot of Conservative Party members yesterday to endorse his policy of ruling out British membership of the single currency for this Parliament and the next.

He brought to a head the simmering internal dispute that has again threatened to wreak havoc at the annual conference next month, by ordering a vote that will leave his pro-European critics out on a limb. Mr Hague declared that he wanted to "set the party free" so that it could concentrate its fire on the Government, rather than fight within itself.

The estimated 350,000 members are to be asked to back his policy in a postal vote over the next three weeks, in a simple Yes or No question.

Ballot papers will go out on September 21 and will have to be returned by October 1. Mr Hague will announce what is certain to be a comfortable victory shortly before the conference begins on October 6.

The Tory leader made the decision to take on the pro-Europeans, in a style reminiscent of Tony Blair's move to confront the Left by abolishing Clause 4, when he learnt recently that senior figures such Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine were planning speeches at the conference in support of the euro.

Over the last few days, he consulted leading members of the Shadow Cabinet, then yesterday he secured the backing of the party's management board for a ballot that will cost £250,000. He telephoned Mr Clarke and Mr Heseltine to tell them, and announced at a news conference his plan to secure at last a "settled policy" on the euro.

> The decision to hold this ballot is misguided, short-sighted and likely to backfire
>
> — *Peter Riddell, page 11*
>
> **Leading article, page 23**

It was time, he said, to put behind them the divisions over the single currency that were one of the biggest contributors to last May's election disaster.

"I do not intend to do this by making a plea for unity. I believe that unity comes through leading, not pleading. I believe it comes through consistency, through clarity, through certainty."

"Wherever I go, I find party members who tell me how much they value the clarity and certainty of a settled policy on the euro. They are angry about the way that rows about this issue have again and again damaged our party."

Mr Hague's suggestion that the ballot should settle the argument was dismissed by Mr Clarke and other pro-Europeans.

The former Chancellor was scornful. "My view of the national interest will not be changed by the results of a snap vote of party activists. I will have a free vote in Parliament whenever the issue arises. I would expect any leader of the Conservative Party to obtain a good majority in an appeal which will be treated as a request for personal backing for the leader from the membership."

Mr Clarke said he would not even be campaigning. "I prefer to campaign against the Labour Party rather than against members of my own party."

Sir Edward Heath said the ballot was "absolutely unjustified", adding: "The rest of the country and Europe will just regard it as a 'smart-alec' attempt by Mr Hague to get his own way without proper discussion within the party."

Ian Taylor, the pro-European Tory MP for Esher and Walton who resigned from the front bench last year in protest at Mr Hague's decision to rule out a single currency for two Parliaments, said the ballot would isolate the party from a key debate. "It solves the problems of conference at the expense of the longer-term credibility of the Tory party."

Labour accused Mr Hague of "panicking" ahead of the conference. "If he wishes to lock himself into a position based on dogma rather than the national interest, then the Tories will be the losers," a spokesman said.

Malcolm Bruce, Liberal Democrat Treasury spokesman, said the move showed the Tories were "still at war" over Europe and Mr Hague was trying to "marginalise" his critics.

YURI KADOBNOV



Boris Yeltsin, looking downcast, arrives for a meeting at the Kremlin yesterday

Rouble slides to new low as Duma snubs Yeltsin again

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA lurched further into political and economic crisis yesterday when parliament overwhelmingly rejected President Yeltsin's candidate for *Prime Minister and the chairman* of the country's central bank resigned as the rouble continued its decline.

Deputies in the Duma, the lower house of parliament, were preparing to institute impeachment proceedings against Mr Yeltsin as a means of avoiding the elections demanded by the Constitution should the President's nominee as Prime Minister fail to win approval next week.

Yesterday Mr Yeltsin's tormentors in the Duma turned their backs on his offers of power sharing and again rejected Viktor Chernomyrdin, his candidate for Prime Minister, by a margin of 273 votes to 138.

In a second acrimonious debate Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader, blamed Mr Chernomyrdin's five and half years in office for bringing Russia back to 1917 and the eve of revolution. Grigori Yavlinsky, of the liberal Yabloko faction, said that Mr Chernomyrdin's proposed rescue package was tantamount to pouring petrol on the fire.

Mr Chernomyrdin retorted that the Communists wanted to repeat the events in Indonesia, where economic problems led to widespread unrest and the removal of President Suharto. "The worse the better is their motto," he said after his defeat. "Somebody wants shops to be empty and people to take to the streets."

The political rebuff and the continued failure of Moscow's political elite to put aside their differences, form a Government and pull the country out of its downward spiral, added to the rouble's steady tumble.

The local currency was selling on the street at 21 to the US dollar, compared with six to the dollar last month. Traders predicted that it could fall to 30 or even 50, wiping out salaries and savings and pushing millions more Russians beneath the poverty line.

To add to the atmosphere of crisis, Sergei Dubinin, the central bank chairman, resigned and Mr Yeltsin postponed a planned meeting with the Chinese leadership.

Russia now faces yet another week of political haggling before the Duma will make its final vote on Mr Yeltsin's nomination. Although he has insisted that he will stand by Mr Chernomyrdin, he was under pressure last night to nominate someone less tainted by the scandal, corruption and incompetence of the Russian reform experiment of the past seven years.

Yuri Luzhkov, the Mayor of Moscow, who has turned the capital into a showpiece of successful reform, is a possibility. Another candidate would be Yegor Stroyev, the colourless former Communist.

The latest name to appear is that of Yevgeni Primakov, the Foreign Minister and former intelligence chief, whose deft handling of foreign policy has won him admirers.

If the Duma again rejects Mr Yeltsin's choice — whoever it turns out to be — the Constitution requires the dissolution of parliament and elections. However, deputies were busy preparing a way round the Constitution by instituting impeachment proceedings against Mr Yeltsin for his part in the break-up of the Soviet Union and the war in Chechnya.

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RICHARD BRANSON



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United board calls emergency meeting on BSkyB takeover bid

BY RAYMOND SNODDY AND JASON NISSÉ

DIRECTORS of Manchester United have been summoned to an urgent meeting to consider BSkyB's proposed takeover, amid opposition from fans and the likelihood of an Office of Fair Trading investigation.

The announcement of the meeting, to be held before tomorrow night's home game against Charlton Athletic, came as the club's shares soared on the stock market, taking with them the entire quoted football sector. United shares were up 46½p to 205½p, and Aston Villa, Celtic, Newcastle United, and Tottenham Hotspur also benefited as the market looked for the next bid target.

There was little sign of progress on the proposed BSkyB deal, however, other than a formal statement to the Stock Exchange confirming that the two organisations were in discussions. Speculation that rival bidders had shown an interest in the club was dampened by the finance director, David Gill, who said that the club would have mentioned it had any other approaches been made.



"Scored? No . . . they've just seen the share price"

BSkyB — whose biggest shareholder is News International, owner of *The Times* — had hoped that a formal offer valuing United at £575 million could be put before the boards of both companies in the next couple of days, but there may now be a pause in negotiations until after tomorrow's Old Trafford board meeting.

The club may want to review the proposed price — a number of directors believe it is too low — as well as the fans' reaction and the political impact of a sale. Peter Mandelson, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, promised yesterday that any offer would be examined "very completely and extremely searchingly" by the Office of Fair Trading, which automatically investigates any takeover worth more than £70 million. The OFT confirmed that its officials had held preliminary discussions with BSkyB.

The OFT study will make one of three recommendations: that the deal should be allowed to proceed; that there are competition implications that can be handled by firm undertakings, or that it should be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

BSkyB's interest in the club is mainly to defend its position as pay-per-view televising of football grows.

In January the Restrictive Practices Court will begin a case which will decide whether the collective agreement on television sports rights between BSkyB, the BBC and the Premiership is lawful. If the court ruled that television rights should be negotiated by the individual clubs rather than the league, the existing *Premiership-BSkyB agreement* could be struck down. The ownership of Manchester United is seen as an important insurance policy against such an eventuality.

> **Resentful fans, page 2**
> **Simon Barnes, page 22**
> **Values boosted, page 28**
> **Clubs' reaction, page 48**

Shares soar, pound dips on interest rate hopes

BY JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS EDITOR

WORLD stock markets soared yesterday in the hope that America is preparing to cut interest rates in response to the deepening global economic crisis.

In London, the FTSE 100 index scored its second highest points gain yet, closing 180 points higher at 5,347 — a jump of 3.5 per cent.

Investors were buoyed by hopes that the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee may also be persuaded to cut interest rates when it meets tomorrow and Thursday. Although virtually everyone in the City is expecting base rates to remain unchanged, many argue that the cost of borrowing has peaked and may be about to fall.

However, economists believe that the committee is fearful of a precipitous decline in the pound and will be wary about acting hastily. Sterling appears to have started a steady decline that will finally bring relief to exporters, falling almost 2.5 pfennig to 2.8795 marks yesterday, having traded close to a 12-month low earlier in the day.

Shares in the Far East also saw dramatic gains with a rise of more than 5 per cent in Tokyo; 8 per cent in Hong Kong; and 20 per cent in Malaysia, which recently reimposed exchange controls.

Wall Street was closed yesterday for the Labor Day holiday but is likely to follow other stock markets higher.

> **Shares boom, page 27**
> **Commentary, page 29**

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Spice baby boom? Now that *is* scary

BY VICTORIA FLETCHER

FEARS that a generation of "Spice Babies" is being conceived were raised yesterday by the headmistress who speaks for Britain's secondary schools.

Judith Mullen, president of the Secondary Heads Association, said she was genuinely concerned that hundreds of devotees of the Spice Girls would be tempted to follow their idols Victoria Adams (Posh Spice) and Melanie Brown (Scary Spice), who have both revealed that they are pregnant within the past two weeks. Some low-achieving girls become pregnant as a way of gaining "something of their own", she said.

Mrs Mullen, warden of 600-pupil Melbourn Village College in South Cambridgeshire, said her concern followed evidence that the number of pregnancies among 17 and 18-year-olds had risen in the past three years. "We are concerned that some young women will now look at that as a success."

However, the Family Planning Association said that there was no evidence that children mimic the sexual behaviour of role models, although there had been copycat suicide attempts after the death of Kurt Cobain. A spokeswoman said: "It is quite discriminatory to pick on the Spice Girls like this. Two women in their mid-20s who have decided to get pregnant, and can afford it. That is totally different to under-age pupils."

The health charity Marie Stopes International added: "Hopefully young girls have more sense than to copy the Spice Girls. We do need to look at why so many girls are getting pregnant, rather than leaving sex education to too little too late."

Adams, 24, is three months pregnant by her footballer fiancé, David Beckham. Brown, 23, is expecting a baby by her boyfriend, a dancer for the band. On Radio 1 yesterday, she said: "I am absolutely over the moon."

England and Wales have the highest under-age pregnancy rates in Western Europe. In 1996, just over half of the 9,000 under-16s who became pregnant had their babies; this number has remained virtually stable for 20 years.

Angry United fans say deal would rip heart from their club

John Goodbody reports from Old Trafford on a mood of resentment at BSkyB's proposed takeover

OLD TRAFFORD was ringed with resentful fans yesterday, protesting at the proposed takeover by BSkyB of Manchester United, Europe's most prosperous football club.

As supporters' organisations voiced their hostility to the deal, hundreds of United followers travelled to the ground. One brought a For Sale sign, and placed it against a stadium wall. Another painted a hoarding to change an advertisement for a tour of Old Trafford. It used to read "A day in the heart of United". Now it says: "A day in the heartless of United PLC."

Many lamented what they saw as the loss of the club's soul as they stood under the clock commemorating the Munich air disaster of 1958, when so many of the "Busby Babes" died.

Geoffrey Joyner, who had travelled from Bristol, said that the deal "would give Mr Murdoch a monopoly of sport in this country. He already has rights to to golf, cricket and rugby league, which I can't watch because I can't afford Sky TV. His wife added: "These days it is all about money. The club doesn't seem to think about the loyal fans."

John Hallsworth, who was visiting from Melbourne, said: "It is dreadful. Over in Australia, Murdoch and Packer between them own virtually all the main media. They have no fundamental love of any particular game."

The fiercest opposition to the deal came from Andy Walsh, who chairs the Manchester United Independent Supporters Association, which fears that the club might be moved to another part of the country or even outside Britain to improve its earning power. In the United States, the franchises of sports clubs have sometimes moved their home cities to the dismay of local spectators.

The association will discuss what action to take when its committee meets on Thursday but Mr Walsh said he could see "no long-term advantages for Manchester United to be part of News International". The main shareholders of BSkyB are News International, ultimate owner of *The Times*.

Mark Longdon, one of the association's committee members, said:"No doubt some people will see this as a terrific business move. But there is a difference between the shareholder who wants to go into the ground and watch the game and the one who wants to make money out of it."

Andy Mitten, editor of the independent monthly fanzine *United We Stand*, said: "Supporters are concerned about the future. The demand for tickets already far exceeds the supply and people are worried that the price of seats will go up." Asked if supporters would not benefit because United would be able to buy more expensive players, he replied: "We already have the financial muscle to buy anyone."

Monica Hartland, of the National Federation of Supporters' Clubs, said: "Ever since the Premiership started in 1992, we have felt that football has lost its soul. The leading clubs have the cream and the rest have been left with the milk and often sour milk. This news does augur well for football."

Sheila Spiers, of the National Football Supporters' Association, said: "We are concerned that the organisation which has the television contract may own Manchester United. Surely Sky will give preferential treatment to screening United?

"With the money United would have to pay players, no one else in Britain would be able to compete in the transfer market and even some big European clubs would be struggling. What would be the point of going to matches?"

Simon Barnes, page 22
Business, pages 27, 28
Sport, page 48

Trimble talks to Adams, but says no to handshake

BY MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

DAVID TRIMBLE, Northern Ireland's First Minister, broke one of Unionism's biggest taboos by speaking directly to Gerry Adams yesterday, but he refused the Sinn Fein president's proferred handshake.

Mr Trimble, Northern Ireland's top Unionist, addressed the leader of Irish republicanism for the first time during a 90-minute meeting of party leaders at Stormont to discuss the Province's new political structures.

At the end Mr Adams approached him, saying he understood his political problems, and offered his hand. Mr Trimble refused, saying that the gesture was not appropriate.

Unionist officials called Mr Adams's approach a stunt. They argued that a handshake was a sign of trust and that Mr Trimble could not trust Mr Adams or form an executive that included Sinn Fein this autumn unless IRA disarmament had begun.

Mr Adams insisted that the Good Friday accord gave Sinn Fein the right to join the executive without any preconditions.

The Rev Ian Paisley, the Democratic Unionist Party leader, erected another obstacle to the executive's successful operation. He said that the DUP, which opposes the accord, would accept the two ministerial posts to which it is entitled, but would refuse to sit in the executive with Sinn Fein without the IRA's disbandment. "We are not negotiating the future of our Province with [Sinn Fein], nor are we taking part in any acts of government with them," Dr Paisley declared.

On Thursday Mr Trimble will take another major step towards more normal relations with Sinn Fein when he holds his first bilateral meeting with Mr Adams — one of a series with each party to discuss the new political structures. Seamus Mallon, the nationalist Deputy First Minister, will also attend.

Mr Trimble sat in the same room as Mr Adams during the months of talks that produced the Good Friday accord, but had not addressed a word to him before yesterday.

The breakthrough followed Sinn Fein's appointment of Martin McGuinness to liaise with the international disarmament body last week, and Mr Adams's statement renouncing violence, but cameras were barred from witnessing this latest milestone in the peace process and both men sought to play down its significance. Mr Trimble described the meeting as workmanlike. He addressed Mr Adams by name, as he did the other leaders.

He said the only point of contention came when Sinn Fein raised the formation of the executive, and Unionists replied that, for that to happen, there had to be progress on all issues including decommissioning. Mr Adams said that the atmosphere was good, there was no acrimony, and he was treated the same as everyone else in the room.

However, the DUP and Robert McCartney's UK Unionist Party both boycotted the meeting, calling it a surreptitious device to bring Sinn Fein into government without any IRA disarmament.

One of Mr Trimble's own Ulster Unionist Party colleagues in the new assembly also condemned his leader's decision to talk to Mr Adams without prior decomissioning. Peter Weir called the move a "gross misjudgement". Were Mr Weir to side with the Paisleyites in the new assembly it would eliminate Mr Trimble's tiny pro-accord majority among the Unionist members.

John Stillwell/PA



John Monks, front right, leading the TUC delegation out of 10 Downing Street after yesterday's meeting

Blair rejects union plea on economy

BY JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Prime Minister refused last night to bow to trade union demands for a change in economic policy despite threats of industrial unrest over public sector pay.

Tony Blair told trades union leaders at a meeting at Downing Street that the Government would not be "blown off course" after a TUC delegation urged him to lower interest rates and take action to help save 250,000 jobs. After a "forthright" exchange of views Mr Blair also dismissed appeals for a task force to protect jobs or a change of remit for the Bank of England's monetary policy committee which will consider whether to cut interest rates later this week.

A delegation, led by John Monks, the TUC General Secretary, pressed Mr Blair to change tack in the wake of further job losses, particularly in the manufacturing industry. Rodney Bickerstaffe, General Secretary of Unison, the public services union, also warned the Prime Minister of possible industial unrest if the government continued to depress public sector wages to keep down inflation. "This is not just about manufacturing and not just the high pound. It is also about downward pressure on the public sector as an economic lever. That, at some point, will have to be resolved one way or the other. This is not a threat, but I have a gut feeling that the expectations of a New Labour government were that public sector pay was to be addressed but in fact it has got worse."

Union leaders are becoming increasingly alarmed at the recent spate of job losses and factory closures.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Viagra on NHS warning

The Government was criticised yesterday for failing to issue clear guidelines for prescribing the anti-impotency drug Viagra, which is expected to be licensed for use in Britain next week.

The NHS Confederation, which represents the health authorities that will have to pay for the drug, said that without Government intervention there would be different decisions in different parts of the country.

Letters, page 23

Drug case peer

The Tory peer stripped of the party whip after allegations that he offered to sell cocaine inside the House of Lords complained that he was the victim of "serious distortions". The Earl of Hardwicke, who is 27, said he would never do anything to harm Parliament's reputation and would be seeking corrections to newspaper reports.

Horse master

Lord Vestey, 57, was appointed Master of the Horse, one of the oldest positions in the Royal Household. He is only the fourth person to hold the office since the Queen came to the throne. Although technically in charge of all the Queen's horses, "whether for war, for travel, for hunting or for racing", his job is almost entirely ceremonial.

Race bias payout

A magistrate falsely accused of being part of a fraud conspiracy is set to receive a record £750,000 payout for race discrimination. A tribunal found Sam Yeboah, 52, chief personnel officer at Hackney Council, was forced to leave because Bernard Crofton, housing director, believed that Africans had a tendency to be dishonest.

Atlantic bid fails

An American woman's attempt to row solo across the Atlantic ended when her 23ft boat capsized about 1,000 miles west of Land's End and she suffered a minor head injury. Victoria Murden, a lawyer from Louisville, Kentucky, set off her emergency beacon and was picked up by the merchant vessel *Independent Spirit*.

Stage fright

A snake due to play a central role in *Anthony and Cleopatra* at the National Theatre, starring Helen Mirren and Alan Rickman, has escaped backstage. The 1ft asp, named Cedric by staff and a non-venomous type, had been in a secure box. A spokesman said: "Cedric was playing only a slither-on part but it's fairly crucial to the plot."

Field to carry on his welfare feud

BY JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

FRANK FIELD will use the Liberal Democrat conference later this month to reopen his feud with the Government over welfare reform.

The former minister for welfare reform, who resigned dramatically after the reshuffle at the end of July, is determined to campaign from the backbenches — and any other forum — for a compulsory second pension, less means testing and more insurance-based welfare.

Mr Field has already made clear that many of his proposals in government were blocked by Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, who argued that the start-up costs were too high. But he is expected to further embarrass ministers by giving details of the battles with his boss, Harriet Harman, and the Treasury at a fringe meeting at the Liberal Democrat conference in Brighton, in two weeks.

He is said to be furious that many of his plans were shelved or never taken seriously when he was a minister although he is widely regarded as an expert in social security reform.

He is also expected to criticise several reforms implemented by Gordon Brown, including the working family tax credit, designed to encourage low-paid families into work. Mr Field believes the tax credit, adopted from a system in the United States, will lead to further means testing and would be open to widespread fraud by both employers and employees.

Mr Field will use the meeting to argue the case for pump priming to set up a compulsory second pension, a policy which the Liberal Democrats also back. Liberal Democrat sources insist that Mr Field is sympathetic to their own plan for compulsory pensions outlined in the policy agenda published last month.

Blair woos nurses with consultant grade pledge

BY ROLAND WATSON, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PLANS for a new grade of consultant nurse aimed at raising the status of the profession and persuading disgruntled nurses to remain in the NHS will be unveiled today by Tony Blair.

The Prime Minister will tell a nurses' conference that Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, is drawing up proposals to create a post of consultant nurse which would give them many of the powers currently held by junior doctors.

They would be able to prescribe medicines and run clinics with their own teams of support staff in areas such as cardiac rehabilitation and breast cancer care.

Mr Blair will hold out the prospect of higher salaries for those who train and qualify for the new role to match their increased standing. He will add that he hopes the move will remove once and for all the image of nurses as the "doctor's handmaiden".

The move is aimed at offering nurses an alternative career path at a time when thousands are leaving the health service each year complaining of poor morale brought about by low wages and a lack of career opportunities.

Mr Blair will say the role is tailored to appeal to those who want to progress within the profession without moving into management and retaining day-to-day links with patients.

After Gordon Brown's spending review in July, Mr Dobson announced that he intended to create 15,000 extra nursing places and 6,000 new training places over the next three years. But nurses' leaders questioned where the applicants would come from unless a nursing career was made more attractive. Mr Blair, speaking at the Royal College of Nursing "Nurse of the Year" award in London, will say the new posts are designed to allow nurses to stay true to their reasons for joining the NHS.

He will say: "Some nurses at a certain point in their careers are happy to move into management, but many others want to progress but still retain direct day-to-day contact with patients — the reason they came into nursing in the first place.

"The creation of nurse consultants' posts, rooted in clinical practice and in touch with patients and staff, would be one way of recognising and meeting this aspiration."

Mr Blair will add: "The consultant nurses would provide a focus for developing and supporting specialist roles in the profession and provide the nurses with an alternative career path."

Labour sleaze inquiry opens

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH

LABOUR'S ability to stamp out allegations of sleaze within its ranks faces a crucial test today when a two-day inquiry starts into allegations of misconduct concerning Tommy Graham, the suspended MP for Renfrewshire West.

Mr Graham, who was suspended by the party last August after the suicide of Gordon McMaster the MP for Paisley South, is understood to be facing five charges, which he denies. If found guilty he could face anything ranging from a reprimand to expulsion from the party.

The central plank of Labour's case against Mr Graham is believed to relate to allegations that he offered two party activists compromising photographs of another senior party official who is gay.

Although the exact charges have not yet been made public, it is thought that the party's National Executive Committee, which is presenting the case against him, will also attempt to prove that Mr Graham plotted against colleagues and in doing so brought the party into disrepute.

Three members of Labour's highest disciplinary panel, the National Constitutional Committee, will today listen to the party's evidence at the hearing at Keir Hardie House in Glasgow, before deciding whether or not there is a case to answer.

If the inquiry decides to proceed to a full hearing, then Mr Graham will be given the opportunity to put forward his defence. Throughout the two-day inquiry evidence will be taken from up to 16 witnesses. A verdict is expected tomorrow.

Yesterday Jim Devine, a senior party figure and a close aide to Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, was said to be willing to give evidence on Mr Graham's behalf.

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Warning: water slides are more risky than rugby

Mark Henderson reports on a study that says many chutes are unsafe and would leave operators liable

RIDING a water slide is one of the most dangerous leisure activities in Britain, with the risk of an accident much higher than for contact sports such as football and rugby, according to research published today.

Swimmers may be in danger of colliding with another person as often as once every 100 flume descents because of inadequate safety measures that lead to "questionably high" risks, the study by David Ball, of Middlesex University, found.

Flumes that use a time-delayed "traffic light" system to tell swimmers when the slide is clear are particularly hazardous as they do not always ensure an adequate gap between users, Professor Ball said. Writing in the medical journal *Injury Prevention*, he said many such slides were so dangerous as to be "inherently unsafe", and they would almost certainly leave operators legally liable for injuries.

Under the traffic light system, used by more than 300 flume sets across the country, swimmers activate a red light as they enter the slide, then pass another sensor lower down that turns the light green after a three-second delay. Manufacturers say it should be impossible for a collision to occur if swimmers do not ignore the lights, but Professor Ball began his study after hearing of a teenage boy who broke an arm when he was hit by an adult descending a slide behind him at a faster pace, even though he had waited for the green light before starting.

There had been ten other collisions or near-misses during the previous three months on the slide, though Professor Ball suggested that accidents had almost certainly been under-reported. He assessed 250 rides on the same flume during busy periods, and discovered that anyone taking longer than 15 to 20 seconds to complete their descent was at serious risk of being hit from behind if the next swimmer was going fast, in spite of the safety mechanism.

About 1 per cent of all rides fell into that category, he found, making the risk of an accident unacceptably high. "Even for contact sports like soccer and rugby, acknowledged as risky, (non-fatal) accident rates are a fraction of this value."

The slide would have been still more dangerous had not supervisory staff and swimmers taken their own precautions to maintain proper gaps between riders. Elderly, infirm and less confident swimmers were the most likely to be endangered.

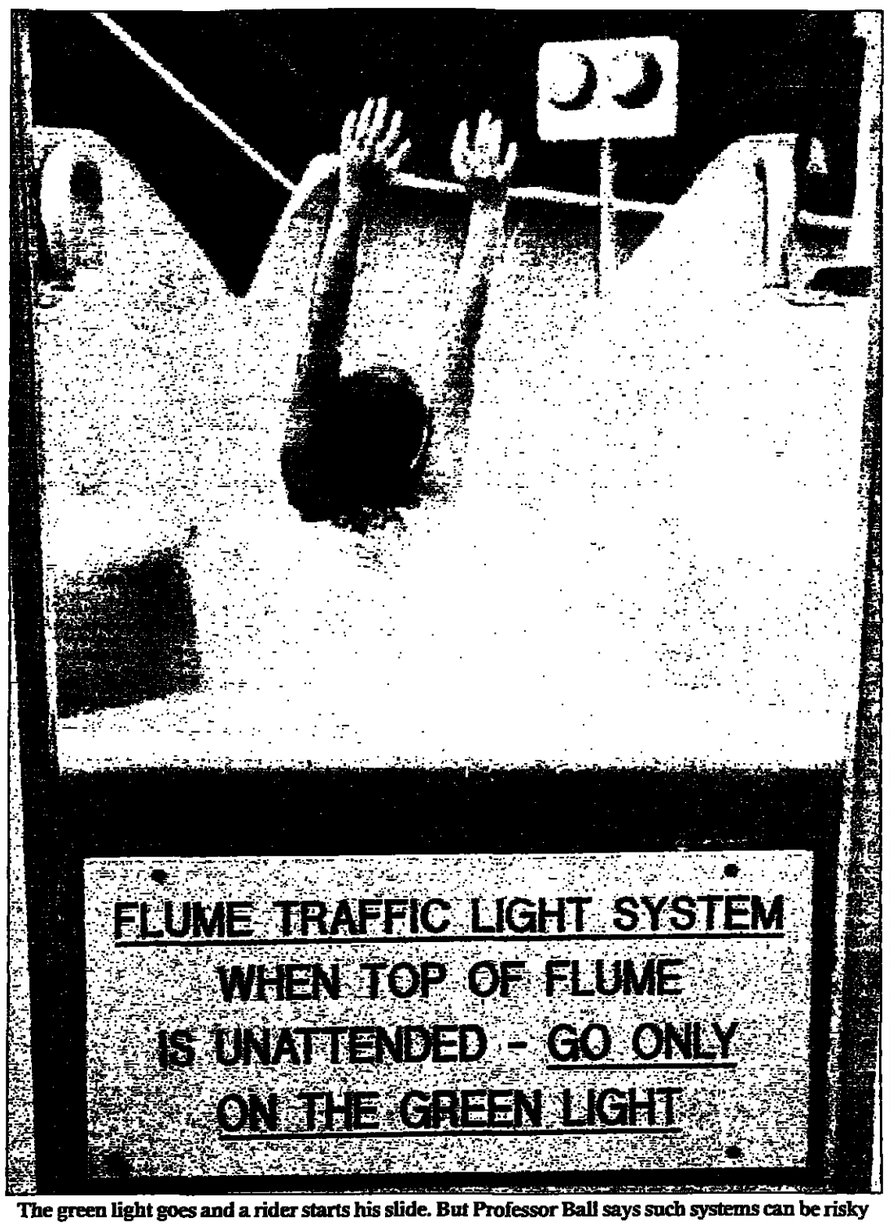
"The three slowest transit times in this sample were recorded by a teenage girl, a mid-aged woman and a mid-aged man, none of whom was in any way misusing the system," Professor Ball found. Risks were highest when queues built up at the top of a slide, creating pressure to go as soon as the light turned green. He concluded: "The risk to waterslide users, even the majority observing all the safety rules, was questionably high. In the event of a injury claim, swimming pool operators might be vulnerable to a court ruling that they have failed in their duty of care.

"It is suggested that waterslide operators, who are wholly or partially reliant on traffic light controlled systems, should carefully scrutinise the safety of their systems."

The study follows a report last month by the Consumers' Association magazine *Which?* criticising poor safety standards at swimming baths. Exposed water-slide supports were singled out as a particular danger, and lifeguard provision was found wanting at most pools.

Guidlines on water slide safety issued by the Health and Safety Commission and the Sports Council recommend that a "traffic light" system of the kind criticised by Professor Ball's study ought never to be used on its own to prevent accidents. The advice to slide operators, issued in 1988 and due to be updated later this year, includes measures that should be employed to ensure user safety but emphasises the importance of supervision at both ends of the slide.

Three sets of water flumes operated by the holiday village company Centerparcs use a "traffic light" which changes to green only when a swimmer is clear of the flume. All the company's flumes are supervised at the top and bottom.



The green light goes and a rider starts his slide. But Professor Ball says such systems can be risky

Head wounds and broken limbs are likeliest injuries

BY JOANNA BALE

HEAD wounds and broken limbs are the most common injuries reported on water slides. Ian Jenkins, director of the Safety in Leisure Research Unit at the Swansea Institute, which devised British guidelines for water slides following a report on accidents in 1990, said: "Many of these accidents are kept quiet and result in out-of-court settlements.

"There have been numerous paraplegic injuries — we estimate up to 30 in the past decade. There are also cases of people banging their heads and drowning. I also know of one 16-year-old girl who became infertile after she was kicked in the abdomen by someone who smashed into her on a slide."

Problems with supervision rather than structure were the greatest hazard, he said. "These accidents tend to happen when the supervision has failed in some way."

Ralph Riley, chief executive of the Institute of Sport and Recreation Management, which is responsible for enforcing the code of practice for water slides, criticised the latest report. He said: "This seems to be very weak in terms of its conclusions. They have studied just one water slide.

"There are hundreds in the UK, used by millions of people. They are all inspected before use and instructions are issued for supervision and safety. Most of the injuries occur because they are misused in some way — it is difficult to legislate for that. No central figures are compiled for these accidents, but each pool keeps a register so that it can tell if action needs to be taken."


The water slide at the Tropicana holiday beach in Weston-super-Mare, where a girl of 13 broke her neck

Alan Morley, sales manager of Stuart Leisure, one of the biggest manufacturers of water slides, said: "Accidents usually happen due to problems of staffing. Many leisure centres do not have big enough budgets to meet manufacturers' recommendations. Only a small percentage of accidents are down to design faults. As soon as these are discovered, they are rectified." The longest water slide in Britain is believed to be at the Richard Dunn leisure centre in Bradford; it is 106 metres long and there have been no accidents since it was installed earlier this year, Mr Morley said.

Problems at other British water slides have included:-

In 1987, Ian Watkins, 15, of Burnham, Buckinghamshire, died after being dragged unconscious from Wild Waters Chute Pool, Old Deer Park, Richmond, after leading a chain of youngsters down the 300ft slide. Hammersmith Coroner's Court was told that the teenager, who was in a party of four friends, had jumped down the slide first, followed closely by the others. *The slides were removed after the accident.*

In 1991, Donna Henry, 13, of Bristol, broke her neck on the Snake Slide at Tropicana holiday beach, Weston-super-Mare, when she banged her head on the side as she went over a bump.

Last month at Sandcastle leisure pool in Blackpool, Consumer Association inspectors found that support structures for two slides overhung the pool, creating the potential for head injuries. Two children banged their heads during the inspection. A spokesman said that extra warning signs had been put up and work was under way to drop the level of the pool.

Doctor is arrested after body of patient exhumed

BY STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A DOCTOR at the centre of an investigation into the death of an elderly patient was arrested yesterday.

Harold Shipman lives in Mottram, near Manchester, and has a surgery in nearby Hyde. He was questioned by detectives who exhumed the body of Kathleen Grundy, 81, a former patient, on August 1.

Mrs Grundy died in June and her family became concerned when they found that she had changed her will in favour of Dr Shipman.

Last night he was still being questioned at Ashton-under-Lyne police station. Dr Shipman, 52, was arrested yesterday morning after he arrived voluntarily at the station with his solicitor.

Mrs Grundy, from Gee Cross, near Hyde, and the widow of a former mayor of the town, was found dead in her cottage on June 24 by friends who became concerned when she did not turn up for voluntary work at a pensioners' luncheon club. Dr Shipman had recorded the cause of death as "old age".

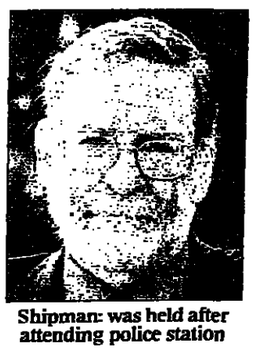
Mrs Grundy's estate included a 17th-century cottage worth an estimated £200,000, a holiday flat in the Lake District and a terraced house. Her daughter, Angela Woodruff, a solicitor, went to police with her concerns.

Police and John Pollard, the Coroner for Tameside, have been waiting for the results of tests which followed the exhumation.

Dr Shipman has been in practice at his town centre surgery in Hyde for more than 20 years.

Mrs Grundy was born and bred in Gee Cross, where she worked at an Age Concern shop until her death. She was said to be devoted to her family.

Her husband John, a former lecturer at Manchester University, died 30 years ago. Mrs Grundy was a Conservative councillor and a former chairman of Tameside and Glossop Community Health Council.


Shipman: was held after attending police station

Coroner appeals to conscience of lake murderer

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

A CORONER yesterday told the unknown killer of Carol Park, the "Lady in the Lake" who was beaten to death and weighted down in Coniston Water more than two decades ago: "I hope your conscience is troubling you."

Ian Smith delivered his message at the end of an inquest on Mrs Park, who was 31 when she vanished from her bungalow home in Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, in July 1976. Her body was discovered by divers last year.

Members of her family, including her husband, Gordon, 54, heard the coroner describe how she tried to ward off repeated blows from an axe or chopper that destroyed her face. He said it was a "nasty, vicious and brutal" attack as he brought in a verdict of unlawful killing.

Earlier Mr Park, a retired teacher, giving evidence to the hearing at Barrow Town Hall, acknowledged that his marriage had been troubled, but he said he loved his wife and had waited in vain for her return.

Sitting alongside his solicitor, he described how he and their three children, Vanessa, now 29, Jeremy, 27, and Rachel, 26, had returned home to Leece, outside Barrow, from a day trip to Blackpool to find she had vanished. Her wedding and engagement rings were lying on the dressing room table.

Mr Park, a keen yachtsman who kept a boat moored on Coniston, was arrested last year, shortly after he returned from a cycling holiday in France with his third wife, Jennifer, 52. He was later charged with his wife's murder, but this was dropped by the Crown Prosecution Service because of insufficient evidence.

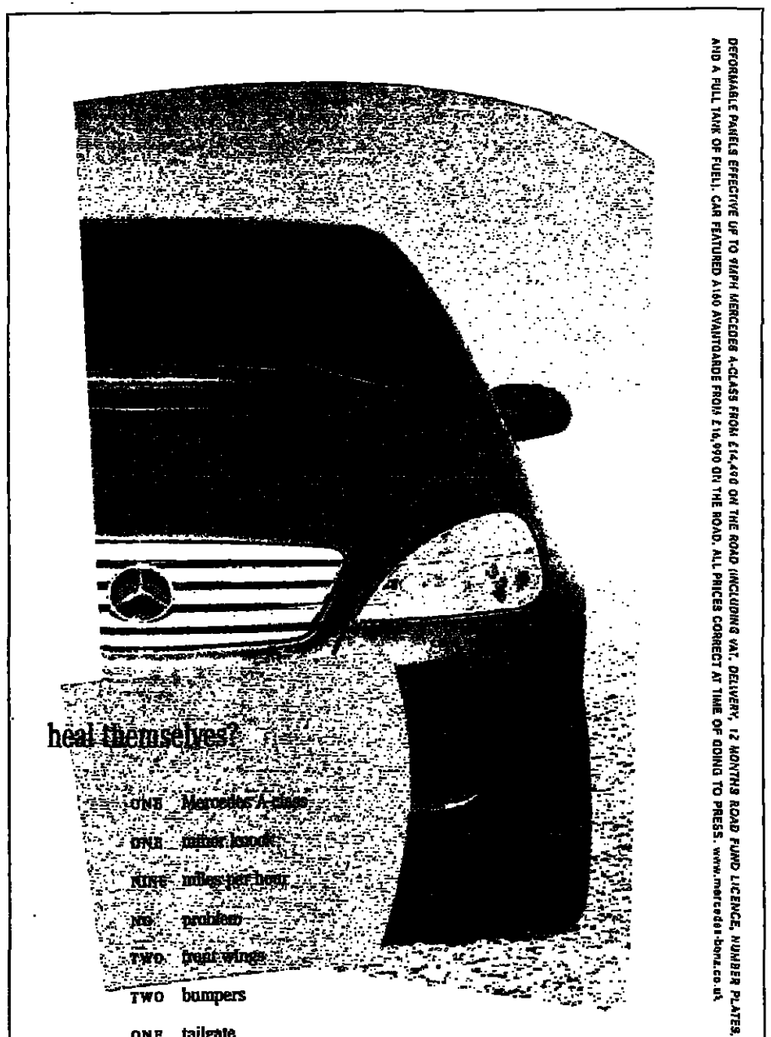

Gordon Park: children gave message of support

As Mr Park completed his evidence, the solicitor acting for the three children told the inquest that each of them wished to make it known publicly that they offered "total and unqualified" support to their father.

Cumbria Police began their investigation into Mrs Park's death in August last year after her body was found bound and weighted on the silty bottom of Coniston Water about 200 yards from Bailiff Wood and under 75ft of water.

Edmund Tapp, the Home Office pathologist who carried out the post-mortem examination, told the inquest that Mrs Park had been weighted down with lead piping attached to a homemade "body bag". He concluded that she was killed by repeated blows to her face from a weapon like an axe.







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Cave rescuers praise boy who saved his father's life

Eleven-year-old struggled for four hours to keep father conscious and warm, reports **Simon de Bruxelles**

A BOY who saved his father's life when they were trapped in a flooded cave was hailed as a hero by his rescuers last night.

James Leeds, 11, worked for four hours to keep his injured father warm and conscious as they waited for help in the cave beneath cliffs near Tintagel in Cornwall.

His father, Nick, was suffering a dislocated shoulder and hypothermia and kept lapsing into unconciousness. On a ledge in another part of the cave, unable to see or reach them, were two rescuers who had became trapped themselves when their lifeboat capsized at the cave's entrance.

Deafened by changes in air pressure as waves pounded the cave and choked by fumes from the capsized boat's fuel tank, James followed the men's shouted instructions to keep his father awake and try to warm him.

One of the stranded rescuers, Mike Edkins, said: "James is the hero. He saved his father's life. Nick should be proud. James kept a cool head in what can only be described as a nightmare."

The father and son had taken refuge at the back of the 100ft-long cave after being swept out to sea at Bossiney Haven, near their family's Willapark Country Hotel. Mr Leeds, 52, passed out from cold and pain as they sat in their bathing trunks, not knowing whether the water would stop rising before it reached them.

Mr Edkins, 37, said he and his colleague, Kevin Dingle, 22, thought they were going to die when their inflatable turned over in 20ft waves. "We thought we had all had it. Kevin and I managed to scramble into a tiny hole and sat there hugging each other. We were screaming at each other to keep going," he said.

"Suddenly I heard the boy screaming, 'I think my father's dead.' We told James to rub him so they would both stay warm. It was freezing in there. We had dry suits on, so it wasn't so bad, but they were in bathers."

When the tide began to recede, other rescuers lowered themselves down the cliff and entered the cave. As they waited to be winched up by helicopter, James thanked the two lifeboatmen for trying to save his life.

The rescue operation began about 5pm on Sunday when Mr Leeds leapt into the sea after his son was washed off rocks. They managed to reach the cave despite a huge swell but the tide was rising and there was no way out.

Mr Edkins and two other crewmen launched the inshore lifeboat at Port Isaac. In heavy seas, the journey took more than twice the usual 20 minutes.

Mr Edkins said: "When we arrived at the cave we couldn't see anyone. We decided to anchor the boat and reverse it into the cave. We knew it would be dangerous, but all three of us agreed we had to do it."

They were within moments of success when the craft flipped over and Mr Edkins and Mr Dingle were thrown into the water. As the third crewman, Paul Pollington, was winched to safety from the open sea, Mr Edkins saw a wave pick up the 16ft boat and toss it towards him. "I thought it was going to take my head off," he said.

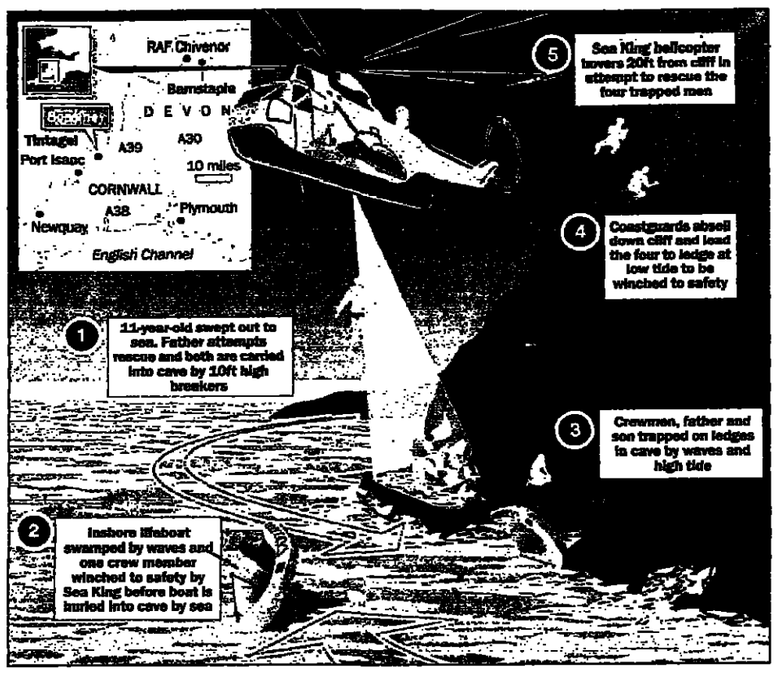
Instead, the boat formed a barrier against the incoming waves and Mr Edkins was able to scramble up to the shelf where Mr Dingle had landed.

All four were taken to the North Devon District Hospital in Barnstaple after their ordeal. The two lifeboatmen were discharged but Mr Leeds and James were kept in to be treated for hypothermia and trauma.

Yesterday two of the helicopter pilots involved in the rescue, Al Potter and Ian Armstrong, visited the hospital. They presented James with a 22 Squadron baseball cap and his father with a coffee mug.

Flight Lieutenant Potter, 33, said: "They are in pretty good spirits, given what happened to them. Jamie was in and out of sleep and was pretty tired."

Mr Leeds's wife, Liz, said: "We are just so grateful to the two lifeboatmen who risked their lives for Nick and James and the RAF helicopter crew who picked them up."



SAM MORGAN MOORE



Coastguards retrieving the wrecked dinghy from the cave where James was stranded

NEWS IN BRIEF

EU may try to ban toy ads for under-12s

Britain will come under pressure to ban television advertisements aimed at children under 12 when Sweden assumes the presidency of the European Union in 2001, advertisers said yesterday.

Sweden has a law preventing its commercial broadcasters from carrying any advertising of toys such as Barbie Dolls or Lego. The government says that this is to avoid parents being browbeaten by "pester power" into buying expensive products and children feeling isolated if they do not own the same toys as their peer groups.

Ex-bishop Casey retires

Father Eamonn Casey, who resigned as Roman Catholic Bishop of Galway six years ago after admitting fathering a son in the 1970s, is retiring from work within the Church, he announced through the Catholic information office in Dublin. There was speculation last month that the 71-year-old priest, who recently completed missionary work in Ecuador, would take up a new job in Britain or Ireland.

Sex-case teacher jailed

A maths teacher who sexually assaulted teenagers after inviting them back to his home was jailed for three years at Leeds Crown Court. David Tebbs, 42, from Moortown, Leeds, admitted a series of offences of indecent assault on two boys, and taking indecent photographs of one of them and a girl after a game of strip poker. He resigned from his post at a school in the Wakefield area last year.

Life for newlywed killer

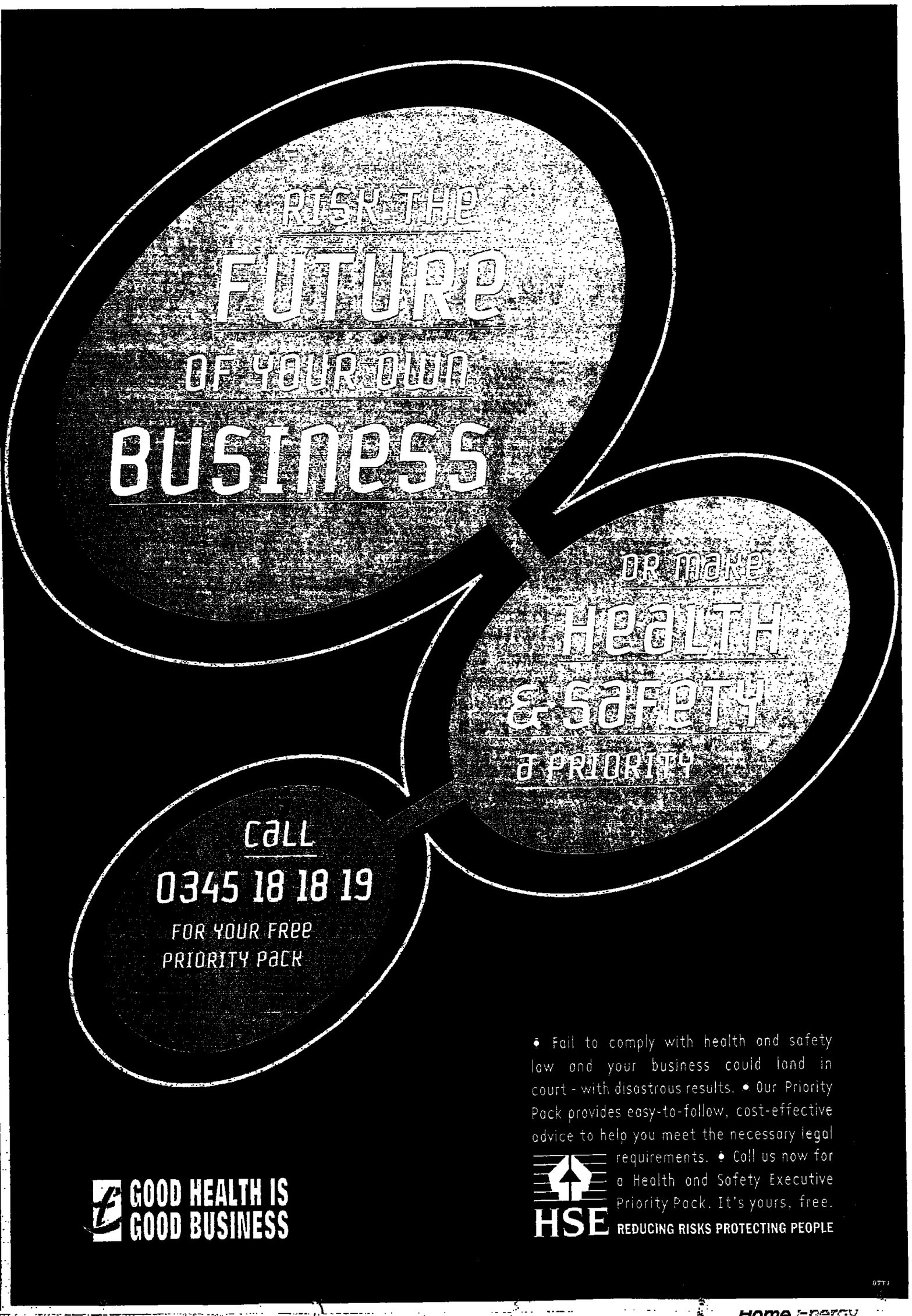
A builder was jailed for life at Cardiff Crown Court for killing his wife of 11 days with a hammer. Keri Romans, 29, of Barry, South Wales, who denied murder but pleaded guilty to manslaughter on the ground of diminished responsibility, said he "snapped" during their first argument as man and wife after Emma Jo, 23, tried to stop him going out to see a friend.

School bus driver jailed

John Molseed, 33, faked a new identity to evade an eight-year ban for drink-driving, then ferried 38 children to the seaside on a school trip while twice over the legal limit. Molseed, of Milngavie, near Glasgow, was jailed for 2½ years and banned from driving for life at Kilmarnock Sheriff Court after admitting driving dangerously and attempting to pervert the course of justice.

Virgin Records

We have been asked by Virgin Records to make it clear that, contrary to an article (August 26) on the Spice Girls' pregnancies, "Don't wait, have a baby now", the company was not "furious" at two of the girls becoming pregnant. Virgin has an enlightened policy on pregnancy and is delighted for the girls. We are happy to put the record straight.



Travellers' life repels 'upper crusty' guinea pig

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

SHE is a Tory councillor who named her Labrador after Baroness Thatcher and lives in a manor house mentioned in the Domesday Book. They are New Age Travellers with nose rings and tattoos whose home is a rubbish-strewn caravan site near Brighton.

They were never going to see eye to pierced eye-brow, but at least Dee Dee Dobell was prepared to give it a try. Mrs Dobell spent a week living as an "upper crusty" at the invitation of the BBC for a new series called *Living with the Enemy*.

Although Mrs Dobell claims she went with an open mind there is no prospect of her exchanging life at Whitestaunton Manor in Somerset for the scruffy former Army lorry that became her home for a week. Besides the neighbours, who did not exactly welcome her with open arms, the facilities were somewhat basic.

Mrs Dobell, a 56-year-old music teacher, said: "Fairly early on I asked about toilet facilities and someone tossed a shovel over and told me to head for the nearest wood. I couldn't bring myself to do that, although I had to resort to using a bucket once, so I turned and walked a mile and a half to the nearest service station." The Barbour-clad grandmother survived on tea and toast and was reduced to tears on several occasions by her companions. Back at the family's 50-acre estate near Chard, Mrs Dobell said she had taken up the challenge because she "believed it was important to understand the travellers' experience".

She said: "Despite what people may say, I went into this with an open mind and I was prepared to change my opinions. But I saw nothing which gave me any reason to change my mind. It was all so tedious and inane and it grieves me greatly that their children are being denied all sorts of opportunities. What struck me most was the sheer inanity of the lifestyle. There's just no point to it."

Mrs Dobell spent her week with travellers Dan and Zana in a commune near Brighton.

"One afternoon I tagged along with them when they went to a tattoo parlour. It was full of people with pierced bits, which I found quite perverted. The people I was with were quite nice but there were other characters in the camp whom I found intimidating."

"I'm glad I did it, but similarly I am glad it is over."

TIM HOLT



Dee Dee Dobell with New Age travellers Dan and Zana, left, and outside her home, Whitestaunton Manor



Possible BSE link to sheep prompts inquiry

New controls may follow UK scientist's warnings on BSE, Michael Hornsby says

EUROPEAN Union scientists are to re-examine the safety of lamb after a British expert advising the Government said it was "a distinct possibility" that "mad cow" disease had got into sheep.

Franz Fischler, the European Agriculture Commissioner, is also to resubmit proposals to ban high-risk parts of sheep from the food chain. Britain already has such measures in place but most other EU countries have considered them unnecessary.

The flare-up of concern over BSE in sheep came at the worst possible time for the food industry in Britain, where the Meat and Livestock Commission yesterday launched a £2 million campaign to promote lamb consumption.

Colin Maclean, director-general of the commission, said there was nothing new in the latest reports and insisted that the public was fully protected against potential risks by existing safeguards.

"The Government's expert committee on BSE has on three separate occasions examined the theoretical risk of BSE occurring in sheep and at its last meeting concluded that no further action was needed to protect the public", he said.

Ben Gill, president of the National Farmers' Union said: "It is essential to remember that not a single case of BSE has ever been found in a commercial flock. Meat and bone meal, the suggested source of BSE, has not been fed to sheep since 1988. The amount fed to sheep was always far less than to cattle and any sheep that did eat it would have been slaughtered long ago."

Roger Reeson, managing director of Dewhurst, which has about 200 High Street butchers' shops, said: "Lamb sales significantly increase at this time of year which is the peak of the season, so with the best quality lamb in the shops now the last thing we expect is a downturn in sales."

The Consumers' Association said the Government had failed to put the risk to consumers in context.

"When we became aware that BSE might have got into sheep, we wrote to the Department of Health asking for advice, for example on whether babies should be fed lamb, but we did not get any coherent answer," said Sheila McKechnie, director of the association.

The Department of Health said last night the advice of the Government's Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee (SEAC) was that no "further action to protect public or animal health was necessary" and that children were no more likely to be affected than adults.

The flurry of statements came in response to remarks by Jeffrey Almond, Professor of Microbiology at Reading University, who chairs a BSE sheep sub-group recently set up by SEAC to coordinate research.

Professor Almond said: "I think there is a distinct possibility that BSE is out there in the sheep population. I think if we found BSE in sheep it would be a national emergency. The politicians would have to live with the possibility that if they went down the road of stopping the consumption of sheepmeat, that would be 40 million animals to be destroyed, a whole industry collapsing and the consequent cost to the nation of that."

What Professor Almond is saying is not essentially new. The SEAC committee advised the Government two years ago of the risk that BSE might have got into sheep and be disguised as scrapie, which is not harmful to man. Last month it called on the Government to fund extra research to establish whether this had happened. The main difficulty is that strain-typing tests to show whether an infected sheep is suffering from scrapie or BSE cost £30,000 each and take up to two years to produce results. Only nine have so far been conducted.

John Collinge, head of neurogenetics at Imperial College School of Medicine in London, also a member of SEAC, said: "We need now to scale up our tests to screen thousands of animals. There are quicker and cheaper ways of doing this." Professor Collinge believes the techniques he has used to confirm a new variant of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans linked to BSE-infected beef could be tried on sheep.

Leading article, page 23

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Is BSE in sheep?
Nobody knows for sure. Scientists on the Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee (SEAC) warned the Government two years ago that there was a possibility that this had happened. So far no "mad cow" disease has been found in Britain's 40 million sheep but as yet no great effort has been made to look for it.

How could BSE have got into sheep?
Laboratory tests have shown that BSE can be passed to sheep by deliberate infection. In the field, the most plausible route would be via meat and bone meal derived from the remains of BSE-infected cattle. This could mean that BSE first went to cattle in meat and bone meal from scrapie-infected sheep and then passed back to sheep. But meat and bone meal has been banned as feed for both cattle and sheep since 1988 and sheep were never fed much of it anyway.

If BSE is in sheep, can it infect people?
It is possible that BSE in sheep would behave no differently from scrapie, which has been around for centuries without causing harm. But SEAC takes the view that if BSE were found in sheep, it would have to be assumed to be a danger to humans, in the same way as BSE in cattle. Since 1995 a total of 27 people have died from new-variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, a fatal brain condition linked to eating contaminated beef.

Is it safe to eat lamb now ?
No 100 per cent guarantee can be given. But SEAC thinks the measures in force are enough to protect public health. Any risk, if it existed, is likely to have been in the past and any added danger in continuing to eat lamb is considered to be minuscule. The heads and spleens of sheep of any age, and the spinal cords of sheep over one year old are banned for human consumption, as is meat recovered from the vertebral column of any sheep. Lamb from New Zealand, which has no scrapie or BSE, must be completely safe. Lamb from organic farms, which banned meat and bone meal as feed six years earlier than other farms, is probably the next safest.

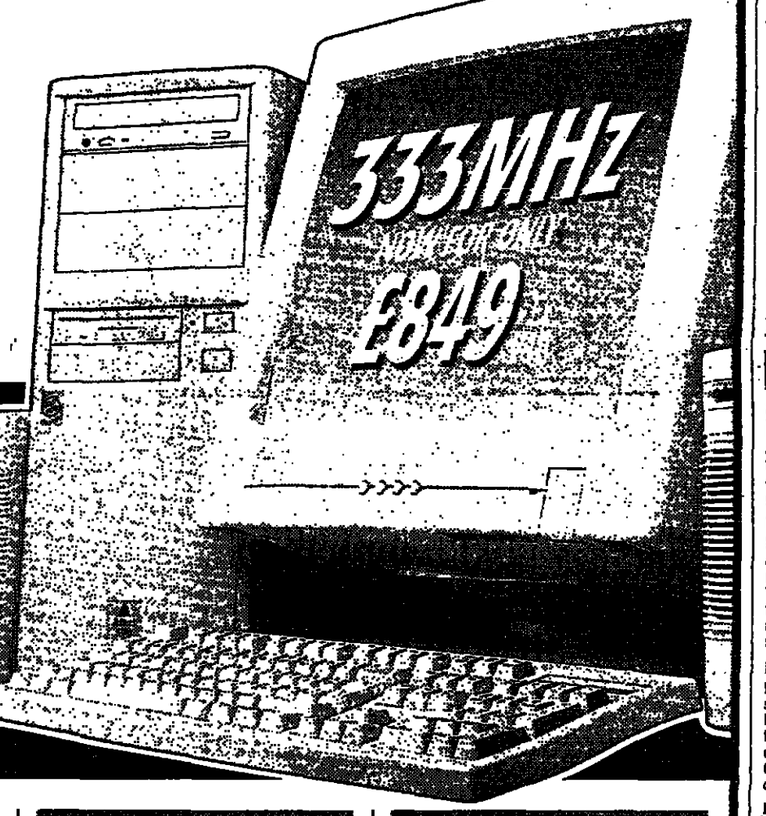
Should lamb be fed to infants who have not eaten it before?
The official view of SEAC and the Department of Health is that neither infants nor older children are likely to be any more susceptible to BSE than adults. But both accept that parents may wish to reduce risks for their children "below the level they would accept for themselves".

How can BSE be detected in sheep ?
With difficulty, as it would look the same as scrapie. Traditional "strain-typing" tests involve injecting infected tissue from sheep into the brains of mice and seeing if the resulting damage resembles that caused by BSE tissue. Such tests cost £30,000 each and take up to two years. It is not practicable to test tissue from thousands of animals in this way. It may be possible to screen fairly large numbers of sheep quite quickly by other techiques already used to detect the new strain of CJD in humans. SEAC is expected to recommend soon that these should be tried on sheep, but it is not certain how effective they will be. One solution might be to use these techniques to identify suspect cases which could then be double checked by the more laborious strain typing methods.

How much scrapie is there in sheep?
Information is unreliable. It has been a notifiable disease only since 1993, when 328 cases were reported, followed by 235 in 1994, 254 in 1995, 453 in 1996, 465 in 1997 and 175 so far this year. But there may be much under-reporting. Compulsory slaughter of scrapie-infected sheep, with compensation, was introduced only two months ago. Just over 80 suspect animals have been offered for slaughter since then. If BSE had got into sheep, scientists would have expected to see a dramatic surge in reports of scrapie. This does not appear to have happened.

What should be done if BSE is confirmed in sheep?
Jeff Almond, a SEAC member, says the Government would face "a national emergency" and be forced to contemplate slaughtering all flocks with a history of scrapie or even all 40 million sheep in the country. The problem is that scrapie infection is more widespread in a sheep carcass, appearing, for example, in the lymph nodes, than BSE is in cattle. This might also hold true for BSE in sheep. Simply removing the most dangerous carcass parts at the abattoir might thus not be a sufficient safeguard. BSE may also be able to spread from animal to animal in sheep, in a way it does not do in cattle, making it much harder to eradicate the disease.

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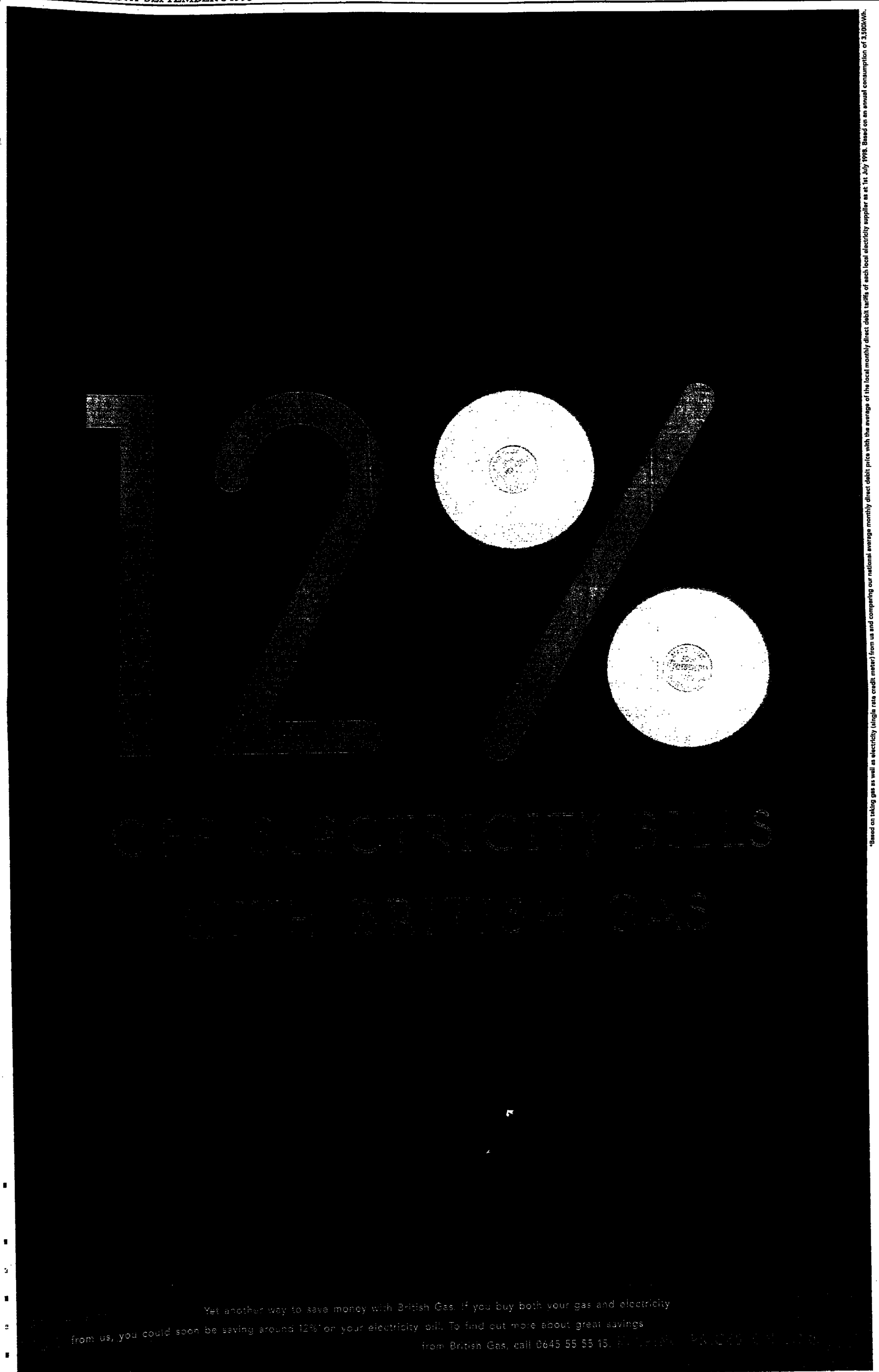
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Gas crystals on the seabed could be fuel for the next century



Clennell: he said Britain had deposits in Atlantic

VAST fields of gas crystals that could be a new fuel for the next century have been discovered on the seabed. Researchers said yesterday that the reserves of the crystals, called gas hydrates, dwarfed those of coal, oil and natural gas.

Ben Clennell, of Leeds University, told the British Association festival: "A conservative estimate is that there is enough gas locked away in these ice-like hydrates to double all the known fossil fuel resources of the Earth ... that have been used or ever will be."

He said that Japan, which was reliant on imports of oil, was starting a multimillion-pound pilot scheme next year to test the technology needed to mine the crystals. They are found at depths of between 500 and 3,000 metres. India, which was also heavily dependent on energy imports, was considering similar work.

In the United States about £60 million was being spent on on research into gas hydrates. Big reserves had also been located off Norway. Dr Clennell, of the university's School of Earth Sciences, said that Britain was likely to have deposits in the Atlantic, west of Shetland.

The potential of gas hydrates as a fuel has emerged from the Ocean Drilling Programme, a grouping of scientists from 30 countries — funded in Britain by the Natural Environment Research Council — that is investigating sediments, rocks and muds holding clues to past climates and the evolution of the Earth.

Dr Clennell, who is part of the programme, said yesterday that the crystals were formed from natural gas at low temperatures and high pressures. Conventional resources of natural gas are formed from heat inside the earth. But the gas hydrates are formed from gaseous emissions of marine bacteria trapped in ice-crystal structures a few metres below the ocean bed on the continental margins. Dr Clennell said that the conditions that formed the gas hydrate crystals covered "millions of square kilometres of seabed in both high and low latitudes, including much of the continental slopes of the North Atlantic".

Energy companies were studying ways to extract the gas, including methods that fired hot water or deicing agents down drilling equipment, he said, adding that the discovery of hydrate reserves was not entirely cause for celebration.

The seabeds where the best reserves might be were also home to bacteria and worms at the base of the food chain. They might be destroyed by extensive drilling. Melting the hydrates might also trigger accelerated global warming and there were risks of vast undersea mud slides triggering tidal waves of the kind that recently devastated parts of Papua New Guinea.

Dr Clennell said that such a disaster occurred during the last Ice Age, 10,000 years ago, when a tidal wave swamped the Shetland Islands. "There is a place off Norway where, because of sea levels suddenly changing, the gas hydrates there were destabilised. There was a massive landslide, thousands of square kilometers in extent, that slid down the continental slope."

In the resulting tidal wave boulders matching ones found in Norway were deposited on Shetland. Dr Clennell said that there was speculation that the huge amounts of methane released triggered a warming of the planet.

☐ A current 50 times bigger than the Amazon runs around the top of the British Isles, 100 miles north of Scotland, according to findings from the World Ocean Circulation Experiment.

John Gould, of Southampton University's Oceanography Centre, said that scientists had found that the "river", 1,000 metres below the surface, brought icy waters from the Arctic down to the South Atlantic. The warm waters then returned northwards in the Gulf Stream.

Three Rs lessons 'will not remedy school failings'

Reports by Nigel Hawkes and Nick Nuttall

THE extensive programme of testing children's grasp of the three Rs in primary school is unlikely to remedy Britain's failings in education, the president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science said yesterday.

Professor Colin Blakemore told the association's festival in Cardiff that he was astonished at the idea of testing four-year-olds in reading, writing and arithmetic. "Such skills can only have come from parental instruction. This testing will directly disadvantage children from less supportive home backgrounds."

He said that Germany and Switzerland achieved better results in tests of the three Rs, even though children do not start formal instruction until six or seven.

"I applaud the efforts of government to increase access to primary education from the age of four, which will help mothers to return to work. But it would be more efficient for such young children to concentrate on 'learning to learn' and on developing group cooperation in problem-solving.

"Britain has very high rates of teenage pregnancy and youth crime ... Perhaps an emphasis on social skills in the early years of school would do more to reverse these problems than the three Rs."

Professor Blakemore from Oxford University — who said that he had been in school in the "iniquitous period of the 11-plus" — added that higher and further education was in even greater need of radical thinking. While the rapid increase in students was a great achievement, the country was working within a framework designed for the 1940s.

He added: "The three specialised subjects at A level; the three-year Honours degree course; and until this year, free university fees for all. This structure worked well enough in 1962, when I left school, because only five per cent of school leavers went to university. But it is under severe strain now that more than 30 per cent do."

He said teenagers should take five subjects instead of the traditional three at A level, so that every sixth-former studied arts and science. He also said university courses should be lengthened to four years for an honours degree. "That would add greatly to the strain on university staff and facilities, so the majority of students should instead do a two-year Ordinary degree, aimed at providing a well-rounded advanced education or preparation for vocational training."

The Department for Education and Employment said: "We want to identify children's needs and work from that. These tests are diagnostic and we do not intend to rank children on them. The assessments will help give an indication of the value added by the school itself."

The conference also heard that schools should teach the wonder of science if they are to encourage bright pupils to study it at A level and beyond.

Simon Jenkins, a millennium commssioner and a former editor of *The Times*, said that the current method of teaching the subject was leaving too many pupils bored and disinclined to pursue higher qualifications or careers in such fields.

Those that do go on to university are often of a poor calibre, entering higher education with Ds and Es at A level. On graduating, they find it difficult to find jobs which leads to an apparent oversupply of science graduates.

Mr Jenkins said the blame must rest with the "science lobby". "It is like the old days with classics. They are not teaching science but how to become a scientist. The result is that pupils become very bored ... and they do not see science as getting them jobs."



Ailsa Hall

Layer of blubber is a fat lot of use to baby seals

FAT baby seals fare no better than thin ones, scientists have found. The discovery overturns the assumption that a pup needs a good layer of blubber to survive.

Female seals expend a great deal of energy producing rich milk to fatten their offspring. Some pups weigh in at more than 50 kilograms after three to four weeks of life.

Researchers had presumed that this was vital; blubber keeps the seal warm and acts as a food reserve in the first, vulnerable, year of life, when the young are learning to swim and forage for sand eels, shrimps and other food. But scientists at the Sea Mammal Research Unit at the University of St Andrews, have found that thin and fat seals from the Isle of May, in the Firth of Forth, have identical survival rates in the first nine months of life.

The researchers suspect that, at least in Britain, the survival of seals may depend on diseases and pollution rather than the availability of food and extent of fat reserves.

Ailsa Hall, whose work is partly funded by the Government's Natural Environment Research Council, said yesterday that they had compared weaned pups weighing less than 39kg with those weighing over 39kg. In both groups, 62 per cent survived, she told the festival.

"Why should a female go to all the trouble investing so much of her energy resources when she may jeopardise her own survival, when it might be better to produce an average sized animal which does just as well?" wondered Dr Hall.

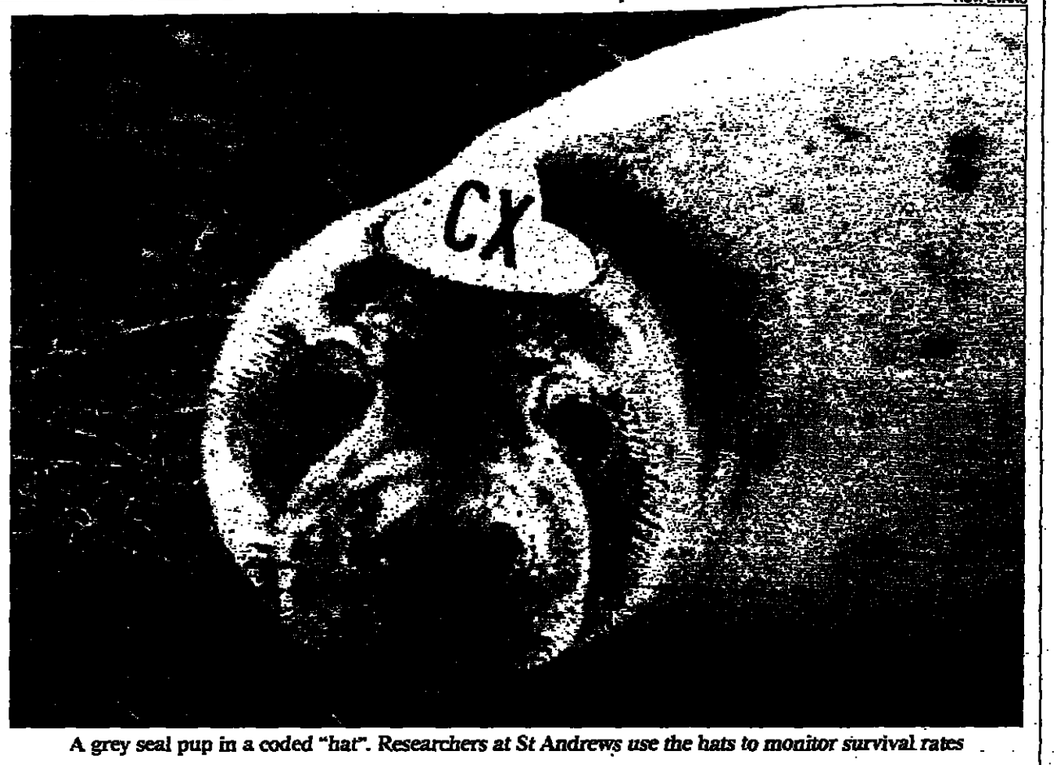
The research, which is still in progress, has involved tagging the seals with "rather natty-looking hats". Each of the 209 weaned seals being tracked sports a triangular plastic cone 1½in high with an individual code printed on it.

Tourist boats operating in areas where the seals travel, including the Farne Islands in Northumberland, have been issued with details of the hats. This has greatly improved the monitoring.

Dr Hall said that the research was part of a study being undertaken on behalf of conservationists, fishermen and landowners into how the seal population might develop. Seal numbers round the coast are growing by up to 7 per cent a year and fishermen fear they are damaging fish stocks.

Dr Hall said: "It is not known what controls the ultimate size of the population. If a better idea is gained of the juvenile survival rate it might give more insight into what regulates the population. If weight at weaning is not important in early survival then other factors such as disease and exposure to environmental contaminants may play a role."

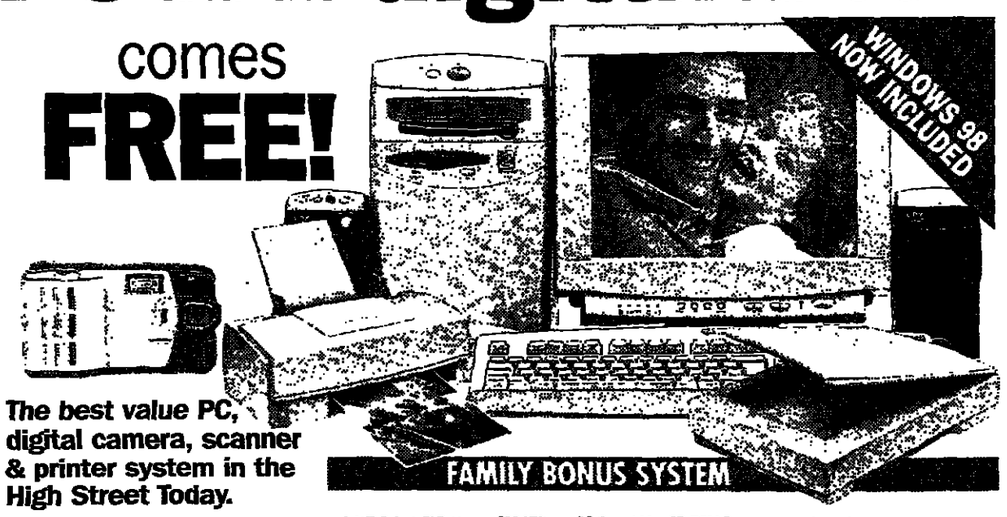
HUW EVANS



A grey seal pup in a coded "hat". Researchers at St Andrews use the hats to monitor survival rates

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In 40 years' time, computers will be able to answer back

The conscious PC will think like us, and could even make us feel guilty

IN FORTY years' time, we may feel a pang of guilt when we turn our computers off, the festival was told.

By then, said Igor Aleksander, of Imperial College London, computers will possess a consciousness of their own. "By then, we wouldn't think of buying a computer that wasn't conscious," he said. "In fact, their consciousness should be indistinguishable from ours."

But such a computer would not feel intimations of mortality when it was turned off. "It will know that its back-up stores are still functioning, so that it is not being eliminated," he said.

Professor Aleksander has designed a computer program called Magnus that, he says, already shows some evidence of consciousness. "It has a sense of where it has come from and where it would like to go," he said. "It sometimes makes arbitrary decisions. In human beings, we might call that free will. It would probably use language and be quite responsive to vision, so you could show it things you're describing.

"Science fiction is way ahead of us in this, but that's only because it can look ahead and see what's possible. The big change is that a conscious computer might answer a problem by saying, 'I see what you mean, but I think we should do X, Y or Z.'

"It could conceivably disagree and argue with you. When a computer starts using the word 'I' in that context, then we'll know that it's fully conscious."

Magnus had shown that, to some extent, it could feel the quality of things — such as "redness" or "ballness" when visualising a red ball. This concept, known as Qualia, has traditionally been used by philosophers as proof that consciousness is a human condition that can never be replicated in a machine.



Aleksander: predicted an era of stroppy computers

Magnus had a million neurones and was tiny compared with even small specialised parts of the brain. But it was hoped that such technology would lead to conscious computers. The author Douglas Adams dreamed up a depressed robot called Marvin the Paranoid Android in his radio play *The Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. Professor Aleksander said: "The point is not to build robots that go around being depressed — that's been done beautifully by Douglas Adams. The point is to find out what happens to humans when they get depressed."

He said learning the structure of language was the major challenge for developing thinking, talking computers. "At the moment we talk to these systems and they talk to us by drawing pictures on the screen, but that's just a question of technology. The thing is it's going to be pretty unsurprising when it happens.

"At the moment you can buy a piece of software for £25 that enables you to talk to a computer. It doesn't understand anything, but one day it will."

Death rates fell as smokers quit

BRITAIN has cut deaths from tobacco faster than any other nation in the world, a leading epidemiologist said.

Over the past 25 years, deaths attributable to cigarettes had fallen in Britain from 80,000 to 40,000, Professor Richard Peto, of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund's unit at Oxford University, told the festival. Over the same period, British cigarette sales had fallen from 150 billion a year to 80 billion.

"In 1970 British men had the worst death rates in the world from tobacco, but half the adults stopped smoking and, since 1970, Britain has had the world's biggest decrease in tobacco deaths," he said. "Half of all smokers are killed by tobacco, but stopping works amazingly well. Even in middle age, smokers who stop avoid most of their risk from tobacco and stopping before the risk."

Despite the improvement, tobacco was still Britain's biggest killer, he said. Worldwide, it caused 4 million deaths a year. "HIV, which causes [up to] 2 million deaths a year, and tobacco are the only causes of death that are still rising. By the year 2030, tobacco is expected to cause 10 million deaths a year."

Smoking was largely responsible for the widening health gap between the poor and the better-off: "However you measure it — by income, education or social class — it is clear that those at the bottom smoke much more. Professionals have a lung cancer rate one fifth that of the unemployed."

He said spreading the anti-smoking message was vital. "If you took 1,000 young adult smokers, one will be murdered, six will die on the roads,

Scott inquiry was unfair, says Howe

THE Scott inquiry into the sale of arms to Iraq had been conducted unfairly, creating injustice to the ministers involved, Lord Howe of Aberavon told the festival.

Lord Howe, a former Foreign Secretary and Chancellor, presented the findings from his research into the role and management of public inquiries. He said that the procedure adopted by Lord Justice Scott had made scapegoats of at least two members of the last Government — William Waldegrave and Sir Nicholas Lyall — and exposed them to "long-term pursuit".

By arranging for the counsel to the inquiry, Presiley Baxendale, to sit alongside him, Lord Justice Scott ensured that those cross-examined were subjected to an inquisition without any legal representation to assist them.

He had, said Lord Howe, been approriate to a private inquiry, not for one held in public. "There was nobody there to lead them," he said, "and as a result they were cast in the fall-guy role and both suffered thereafter. The whole thing got out of hand.

"It may be said that I am a dinosaur, stuck in the past," Lord Howe admitted, but he had taken comfort from the way Lord Justice Phillips had set up the inquiry into BSE. At that inquiry, witnesses have access to legal representation — "and nobody can call Sir Nicholas Phillips a dinosaur."

The argument that legal representation slowed the work of an inquiry was not true, he said. The Scott inquiry had taken three years, cost £5 million, and produced an 1,800-page report without a summary. The Phillips inquiry was expected to take only 12 months, although this had

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Poor shun visits to doctor and the dentist

BY IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

FEWER poor people are seeing their doctors and dentists than five years ago, according to a survey by the National Consumer Council published today. The better-off, however, are using the National Health Service more often.

The trend continues one first noticed when the council made a similar survey in 1993, "but the gap between the higher and lower social groups seems to have widened, especially for GPs and dental services," the report says. "The highest incidence of illness is experienced by those who are worst off in society and it is worrying if our findings mean that the NHS may not be used appropriately by those who need it."

The figures show a reduction since 1993 in the overall numbers visiting their GP. While 78 per cent attended a surgery at least once in 12 months five years ago, the rate is down to 71 per cent now. However, among the top two social classes, the proportion paying at least one visit has risen to 79 per cent, while in the lowest two classes it has fallen to 66 per cent.

Official government figures show that the number of consultations each GP gives in a year has risen by 18.4 per cent over the past decade from 9,355 to 10,090. John Chisholm, chairman of the British Medical Association's GPs' committee, said: "Doctors are working harder than ever, but the Consumer Council survey suggests that they are seeing people more frequently than in the past.

"Sadly the fact that fewer lower-class people are coming is an example of what is known as the inverse care law — *those who are deprived get* less benefit for a variety of reasons than those who are better off."

For visits to the dentist the gap is even wider, with those in the top classes almost twice as likely to have a regular check-up. Overall, the proportion visiting a dentist fellfrom 56 per cent five years ago to 51 per cent — only just above the 50 per cent level in 1979. Among the better off the figure was 68 per cent, against 35 per cent for poorer people.

While 75 per cent are registered with a dentist, 16 per cent of those are with a private one. *A third of patients who tried to* find an NHS dentist over the year had difficulty in doing so.

Ruth Evans, director of the Consumer Council, said: "People in lower socio-economic groups are least likely to visit the dentist, suggesting that cost is a major deterrent. Access to NHS dental care is not as widespread as it was before 1990. Recent changes, like removing patients from lists when they haven't had a check-up for 15 months, exacerbate the problem."

Charges for eye tests, introduced in 1989, are also blamed for the drop in numbers visiting an optician from 38 to 30 per cent over the five years.

The proportion going to a chiropodist has almost halved from 9 to 5 per cent over the period, even though these services are most commonly used by elderly people and the average age of the population is rising. "This decline may indicate the withdrawal in many areas of basic chiropody, particularly for elderly people," the report says.

The numbers using hospital services have remained static over the five years, with 24 per cent visiting an out-patient unit, 14 per cent attending an accident and emergency department and 13 per cent being admitted for treatment.

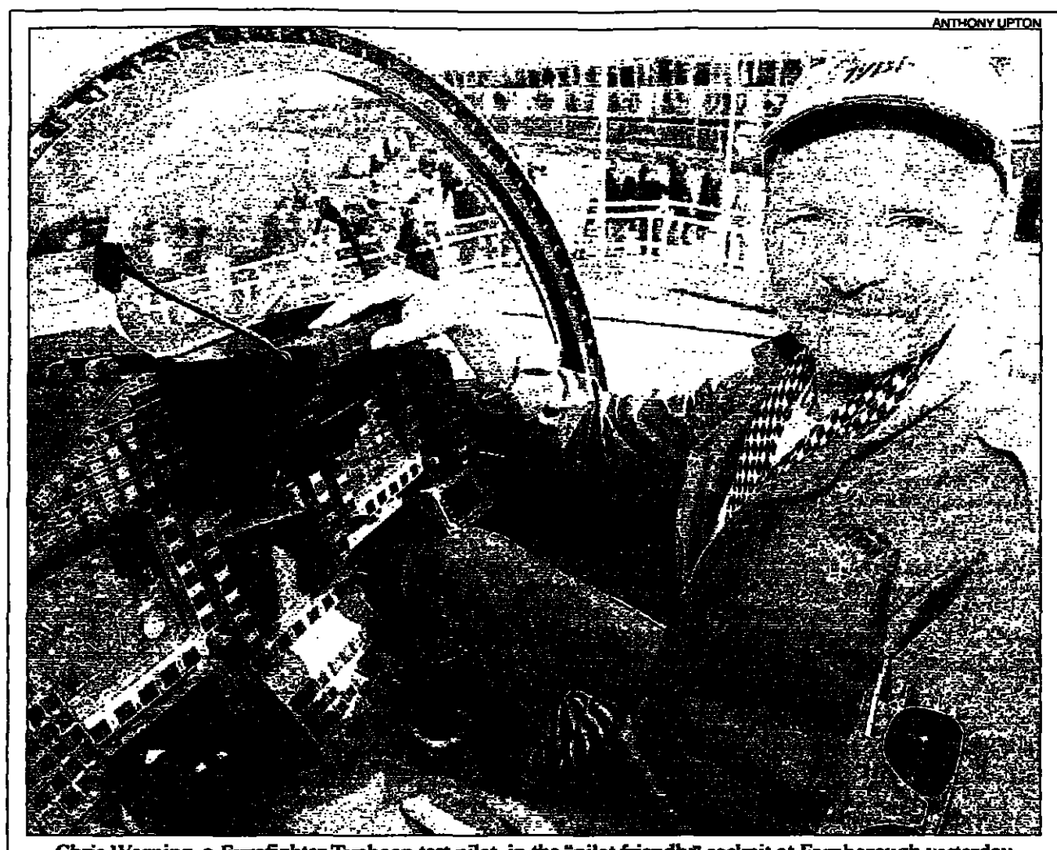
The survey, which interviewed 1,900 people, shows that overwhelmingly patients had confidence in the NHS. But those who did complain appeared to receive little or no response. Mixed hospital wards were widely disliked, especially by women and older people.

Body and mind, page 18



Evans: said dental costs were a major deterrent

ANTHONY UPTON



Chris Worning, a Eurofighter Typhoon test pilot, in the "pilot-friendly" cockpit at Farnborough yesterday

Typhoon takes Blair by storm

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE

THE newly christened Typhoon Eurofighter made a *spectacular debut at the* Farnborough Air Show yesterday, and few were more impressed than Tony Blair.

The Prime Minister, accompanied by the Trade and Industry Secretary, Peter Mandelson, seemed impossible to separate from the new warplane on the opening day of the week-long show. The Typhoon was flanked by the RAF's Red Arrows in a fly-*past as the Prime Minister* opened the event. Soon afterwards, Mr Blair was to be found closely inspecting the aircraft's gadgetry and meeting some of its pilots.

One of them, Chris Worning, lavished praise on the aircraft's manoeuvrability, but said it had not always been a joy to handle.

"The brakes were a catastrophe to begin with," he said. "They were very snatchy and the anti-skid system was not so good."

But Mr Worning, a Dane who flies for Daimler-Benz Aerospace, said the aircraft *was now "stunning. I have* never sat in such a pilot-friendly cockpit. The radar is *astounding and the aero*plane is amazingly agile."

The multinational Eurofighter consortium has already signed contracts to supply 620 Typhoons to the air forces of Britain, Germany, Italy and Spain.

Mr Blair yesterday applauded Britain's "strong" aerospace industry as the Boeing Corporation licked its wounds after last week's an*nouncement that British Air*ways was to buy European Airbus aircraft for the first time. Boeing's president, Harry Stonecipher, yesterday admitted his company had been "too arrogant".

The Society of British Aerospace Companies, which hosts Farnborough, has arranged one of the biggest exhibitions in its history. About 170 aircraft will appear, 25 making their debut. Nearly 1,200 companies will vie for business among an expected 135,000 trade visitors during the week.

Boeing arrogance, page 28

Drug tests on youth who died at club

BY PAUL WILKINSON

FURTHER scientific tests are to be carried out to establish the cause of the death of a 16-year-old who collapsed after apparently taking the drug Ecstasy.

A post-mortem examination on Thomas Skillcorn, from Gateshead, failed to find a cause for the heart attack he suffered outside the After Dark club in South Shields on Tyneside. Friends who helped him out of the club early on Sunday morning when he felt ill said he had taken the drug, but yesterday the club manager rejected any suggestion that Ecstasy was on sale inside his premises. Toxicology tests are being carried out.

Detective Inspector Peter Farrell, of South Shields CID, said: "We know Thomas went to the club with three friends just before midnight. At around 4am he became visibly unwell and at 6am he went outside and an ambulance was called.

"Witnesses told the paramedics he had taken Ecstasy but *until the results of blood* tests come back we won't know for sure. We are keen to speak to whoever called the ambulance and anyone who was in the club on Saturday."

David Mallin, the club manager, said: "I am devastated by what has happened and that it happened outside my club. My sympathy goes to this young man's family. But if it is an Ecstasy-related death he definitely did not buy it here. I am certain of that.

"This is a popular, trouble-free club. I am constantly liaising with police to make sure it stays that way. Everyone who comes in here is searched and there are cameras."

Pensioner caused a pile-up in car park

BY GILLIAN HARRIS
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

AT THE wheel of his trusty Ford Granada, Robert Strickland was a model driver with more than 60 accident-free years on the road. But his one attempt to park a powerful sports car ended in near disaster.

A crowd watched in astonishment as Strickland, 85, who was searching for a space in a hospital car park, accelerated at speed into a Ford Fiesta. He then reversed into a Vauxhall Astra, shot forward again, hitting a Renault Clio, ploughed into an Austin Metro and shunted into a Vauxhall Corsa that, in turn, crashed into a Subaru Legacy.

Finally Strickland hurtled through a fence before the car came to a halt in someone's front garden. Staff at Perth Royal Infirmary, who had been watching, treated him for bruising and shoulder injuries.

Yesterday Perth Sheriff Court was told that Strickland, who lives alone in Crieff, Perthshire, had been driving since 1935. The accident in January this year was his first motoring offence.

Sheriff Sandy Eccles, who heard that Strickland had passed a driving competency test in June, fined him £450 and imposed seven penalty points on his licence. He told him: "I am considerably concerned with the circumstances of this incident, but on balance I'm prepared not to disqualify you from driving. But if a similar incident were to occur again that would be the realistic outcome."

Afterwards Strickland refused to comment. He was driven away by a friend.

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Mother's response to the tragedy of war

Alan Hamilton on how a woman who lost her three sons ensured that their fighting spirit would live on

IN Steven Spielberg's *Saving Private Ryan*, six American soldiers risk their lives to rescue a paratrooper and preserve his family line after his three brothers have been killed in action.

The MacRobert family of Tarland, Aberdeenshire, was less fortunate. When the Queen visits their former estate near Balmoral today, she will learn of a mother's remarkable response on losing her three sons, two of them in action during the Second World War.

As the Queen tours what is now a retirement home run by the RAF Benevolent Fund, a Tornado from XV(R) Squadron at RAF Lossiemouth will fly overhead in salute. It will be too high and too fast to read the words "MacRobert's Reply" painted beneath the cockpit window.

Rachel MacRobert was a steely, determined woman struck by tragedy. An American, she was the granddaughter of a former Governor of Massachusetts and her father was William Workman, the eminent Himalayan explorer. She was educated at Cheltenham Ladies' College so that her parents could visit as they passed through England on their various expeditions.

In 1911 she married Sir Alexander MacRobert, a Scottish laird who had made a fortune in India. He died in 1922, leaving Lady MacRobert widowed at 38.

One tragedy followed another. Their eldest son, Alastair, was killed in a flying accident at Luton in 1938. Her next, Roderic, died when his Hurricane attacked German fighter squadrons on the



Crest on Tornado: glory rewards the brave

ground at Mosul, Iraq. And her last, Iain, was lost aged 24 when his aircraft went missing while searching for a ditched bomber crew off Flamborough Head in 1941.

Lady MacRobert was determined that her family should be remembered. She wrote out a cheque for £25,000 and sent it to Sir Archibald Sinclair, the Secretary of State for Air, ordering him to buy a Stirling bomber and name it "MacRobert's Reply".

In her covering letter, she made her feelings plain. "It is my wish to make a mother's immediate reply, in the way that I know would also be my boys' reply — attacking, striking sharply, straight to the mark ... if I had ten sons, I know they would all have followed that line of duty. It is with a mother's pride that I enclose my cheque of £25,000, and with it goes my sympathy to those mothers who have also lost sons and gratitude to all mothers whose sons so gallantly carry on the fight."

The first MacRobert's Reply took to the air in 1941. Since then, XV Squadron has never been without one. The name was transferred to a Lancaster in 1943, a Lincoln in 1947, a Washington in 1950, a Canberra in 1953, a Victor in 1958 and a Buccaneer in 1970. Since 1983, the name, tartan flash and crest have been carried by a Tornado GR1.

Soon after her first donation, Lady MacRobert gave another £20,000 to buy four Hurricanes, three of them named after her sons and the fourth "MacRobert's Salute To Russia — The Lady". She also gave a house on her estate as a recuperation centre for air crew, and her home at Douneside is today a guesthouse for officers of the three armed services.

Wing Commander Graham Dixon, commander of XV Squadron, who will fly the Tornado over Tarland with his navigator, Squadron Leader Gary Harrison, said yesterday: "MacRobert's Reply is a very important tradition to us. It shows the lady's strength of character. We are very proud of the connection; I cannot imagine the squadron ever giving it up."

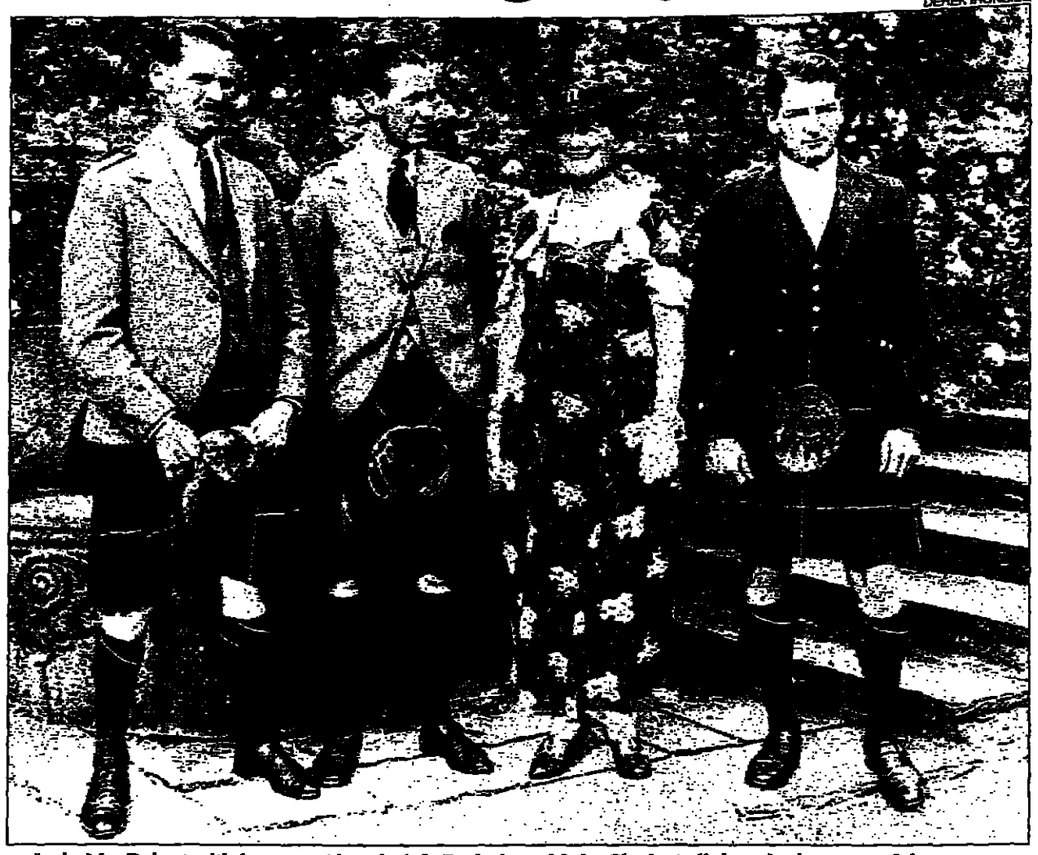
Lady MacRobert died in 1954 with no one to carry on the estate she had successfully managed since the death of her husband. It is now run by the wealthy MacRobert charitable trusts, administered by Major General John Barr.

"She must have been a lady of very stern discipline. She was a pioneer of modern farming. Her tenants regarded her with great respect, although perhaps not a lot of affection," General Barr said.

A clue to her character may lie in her building a garage for her Rolls-Royce and an adjoining cottage for her chauffeur. The garage had central heating; the cottage did not.

The names of Lady MacRobert's two younger sons are listed on the war memorial in the village square at Tarland. But they would be infinitely more pleased to know that they are still flying — as fitting an epitaph as any blockbuster film.

DEREK IRONSIDE

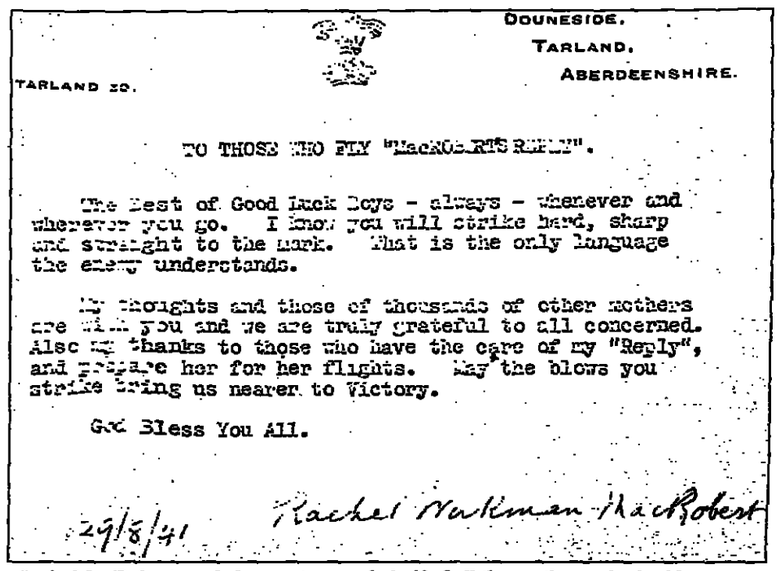


Lady MacRobert with her sons Alastair, left, Roderic and Iain. She lost all three in the space of three years





The first "MacRobert's Reply" in 1941 and, right, Wing Commander Graham Dixon with today's version



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My thoughts and those of thousands of other mothers are with you and we are truly grateful to all concerned. Also my thanks to those who have the care of my "Reply", and prepare her for her flights. May the blows you strike bring us nearer to Victory.

God Bless You All.

29/8/41 Rachel Workman MacRobert

Lady MacRobert made her gesture on behalf of all the mothers who had lost sons

Salvaged Baltic Sea champagne loses none of its fizz

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THE bottom of the Baltic sea is a better place to store champagne than the makers' cellars, according to Christie's auction house.

Christie's experts who tasted two bottles of Heidsieck Monopole 1907, which had spent more than 80 years underwater, said it had lost none of its fizz. "I have never tasted wine of this age tasting so fresh," said Tom Stevenson, the author of *Christie's World Encyclopaedia of Champagnes and Sparkling Wines*.

Duncan McEuen, another Christie's specialist, said: "The wine is absolutely bright with an extremely positive nose, rich, buttery and biscuity. It is very intense and completely clear and fresh and youthful."

Twenty-four bottles of the wine, which was salvaged from the wreck of the two-masted wooden schooner *Jonkoping*, sunk by a German submarine on November 3, 1916, will be auctioned next month. Two thousand bottles were recovered from the wreck. The consignment may have been intended for the Russian Imperial Army.

Peter Lindberg, of the salvage crew, said: "At the bottom of the Baltic the salinity is almost nil. It is like cold fresh water, under 4C. There are none of the bacteria or marine life that would ordinarily attack corks, and much of the metal in the wreck is almost completely uncorroded." Even some of the wire retaining the corks had survived.

The bottles, which are to be sold individually on October 22, are expected to fetch more than £500 each, putting them in the top bracket of champagne prices, despite the fact that 1907 was not a vintage of any special reputation. From a modern drinker's point of view, an added handicap is that the wine is *Goût Americain*, meaning it has a heavy dosage of sugar.

The bottles on display showed no sign of salt or sand scouring, though there was granular silt under the wax covering that had been applied to protect the corks since the bottles came out of the sea in May.

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هكذا من الأصل

Europhiles condemn Hague's euro ballot

Critics say vote will be a bogus loyalty test, reports **James Landale**

PRO-EUROPEAN Tories angrily dismissed the snap ballot called by William Hague on the single European currency yesterday as a political stunt.

They said the move would damage the party's credibility in Europe and entrench internal divisions rather than end them. The Tory leader also faced criticism from grassroots activists who expressed concern that the ballot was being held before they had had given the chance to debate the issue at the annual party conference. They added that the ballot would be a "bogus" test of loyalty to Mr Hague and not a true assessment of the party's attitude to the issue.

Eurosceptic Tories praised Mr Hague's courage in bringing the issue to a head.

The Europhile counterattack was led by Kenneth Clarke, the former Chancellor, who said the ballot would have little impact. He reasserted his view that Britain should initially wait and see but be prepared to join the currency if it was in the national interest.

"My view of the national interest will not be changed by the results of a snap vote of party activists," he said. "I will have a free vote in Parliament whenever the issue arises."

He admitted that Mr Hague would get a good majority for his appeal, "which will be treated as a request for personal backing for the leader from the membership". He would not campaign before the ballot, he said: "I prefer to campaign against the Labour Party rather than against members of my own party."

Mr Clarke added that the party should broaden rather than narrow its appeal "by focusing on an exclusive view on this issue".

Sir Edward Heath said it was "absolutely unjustified" to hold a ballot before the party had had the chance to discuss the issue at conference. "This ballot should be condemned completely," the former Prime Minister said. "It is entirely unnecessary. You can carry on having this discussion within the party without having a ballot. The rest of the country and Europe will just regard it as a smart alec attempt to get his own way without proper discussion within the party."

Conservative Mainstream, the umbrella organisation representing several pro-European groups in the party, admitted that Mr Hague would win his ballot but insisted it would change nothing. "We would regret a result on this issue which reinforces the party being perceived as anti-European," a spokesman said.

Ian Taylor, the pro-European Tory MP for Esher and Walton who resigned from the front bench last year in protest at Mr Hague's decision to rule out a single currency for two Parliaments, said the ballot would "lock in divisions within the party." He added: "It solves the problems of conference at the expense of the longer-term credibility of the Tory party. Any party leader who thinks that he can decide now on a policy towards the single most important economic debate facing us is not showing that he is preparing for office."

Eric Chalker, deputy chairman of the Charter Movement, a group campaigning for greater Tory party democracy, said that greater discussion should take place before a ballot is held. "This is a little premature. The trouble with Mr Hague's ballots is that they all seem designed to help him do what he wants to do anyway."

He added: "Most members of the party are deeply concerned about European Monetary Union but they want more information. I wish he would hold ballots in a way that encourages party members to think that he really wants to know what they think instead of seeking to use them for his own ends as some form of personal endorsement."

Michael Portillo, the former Defence Secretary, applauded Mr Hague's decision as "typically courageous and straightforward. I share Mr Hague's lucidly-expressed worries about the single currency. The Government would like no discussion about it. It is highly desirable that the issue should be debated between the parties now and at the next general election."

A spokesman for Conservatives Against a Single Currency said: "At long last the Conservative Party will able to make its mark against EMU. For years we have seen on the doorstep how ordinary people are incensed at the prospect of losing their pound. Now, we will all have the chance to help fight to save it."

Sir Teddy Taylor, the Eurosceptic MP for Rochford and Southend East, said that the move was "the only way to sort out this great problem and to enable the party to revive again".

Leading article, page 23

SIMON WALKER



William Hague announcing the ballot yesterday. His opponents say it will entrench divisions, not end them

A solution that could make the problem worse

THE decision to launch an immediate ballot of Conservative members on the single currency is misguided, short-sighted and likely to backfire. No one really doubts that William Hague will probably win an overwhelming majority — at least three or four to one — for the leadership's opposition to British membership at the next election and in the next parliament. That may ensure a smoother passage at the October conference, but thereafter it will not, indeed cannot, end argument on the issue and it risks aggravating the party's deep divisions.

Tory strategists are, as so often, trying to copy the Blair strategy of 1994-97 — take a tough stance on a divisive issue, win the overwhelming endorsement of party members and isolate the minority of dissidents. But they are failing to spot the critical differences between Mr Blair's assault on Clause Four and old Labour in 1994-95 and Mr Hague's attempt to isolate pro-Europeans now.

Mr Hague said his party "must first deal with one last part of the legacy of the past". That was true of Clause Four, a legacy of Labour's foundation, which is why its defenders were on such weak ground. But the single currency is an issue of the future, not the past. Mr Hague wants to say after the ballot, on the first day of conference, that "now we have settled this matter and can speak with clarity and certainty on this issue — now we are free to move on". But the party and national arguments on a single currency will continue, and probably intensify, after the euro is launched next January.

Moreover, the opponents of rewriting Clause Four were depicted as out-of-touch extremists. By contrast, Michael Heseltine and Kenneth Clarke are not only better known but also more popular than virtually all of the Shadow Cabinet — even though the majority of the public agrees more with the sceptic stand of Mr Hague. The pro-Europeans and monetary union sympathisers may be a smallish minority, but they are likely to retain a favourable public image.

Mr Hague was careful to say that EMU sympathisers would not be required to remain silent or to change their views after the ballot. But not all in the party may share his sensible tolerance. Some hotheads have talked of purging dissenters, who have even been stupidly described as Vichyites. Such language is bound to lead to resentment among pro-European MPs and MEPs and even defections to other parties or separate pro-EMU Tory candidacies in elections under proportional representation.

The Hague camp said that the move would publicly demonstrate his ability to take tough decisions, while the ballot will produce a clear, certain and settled policy on the euro, ending any public uncertainty about whether the line may change. And Messrs Clarke and Heseltine can be presented as speaking for themselves rather than for the party. Tory strategists argue that this clarity will become more popular as the election approaches in view of the Government's deliberate ambiguity, which may, of course, not last that long.

A better course would have been to follow the advice offered by Chris Patten on *Breakfast with Frost* on Sunday and take a lesson from Harold Wilson, "who constructed a policy for Labour which enabled people to argue on different sides in a [national] referendum campaign while being on the same side in an election campaign". Mr Hague will need the pro-Europeans if he is to win the next election. Purity and clarity will only ensure even longer in opposition.

PETER RIDDELL

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

How the plotters were outflanked

BY ROLAND WATSON, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

WILLIAM HAGUE was holidaying in Colorado when he learnt that his party's pro-European elders were busy plotting.

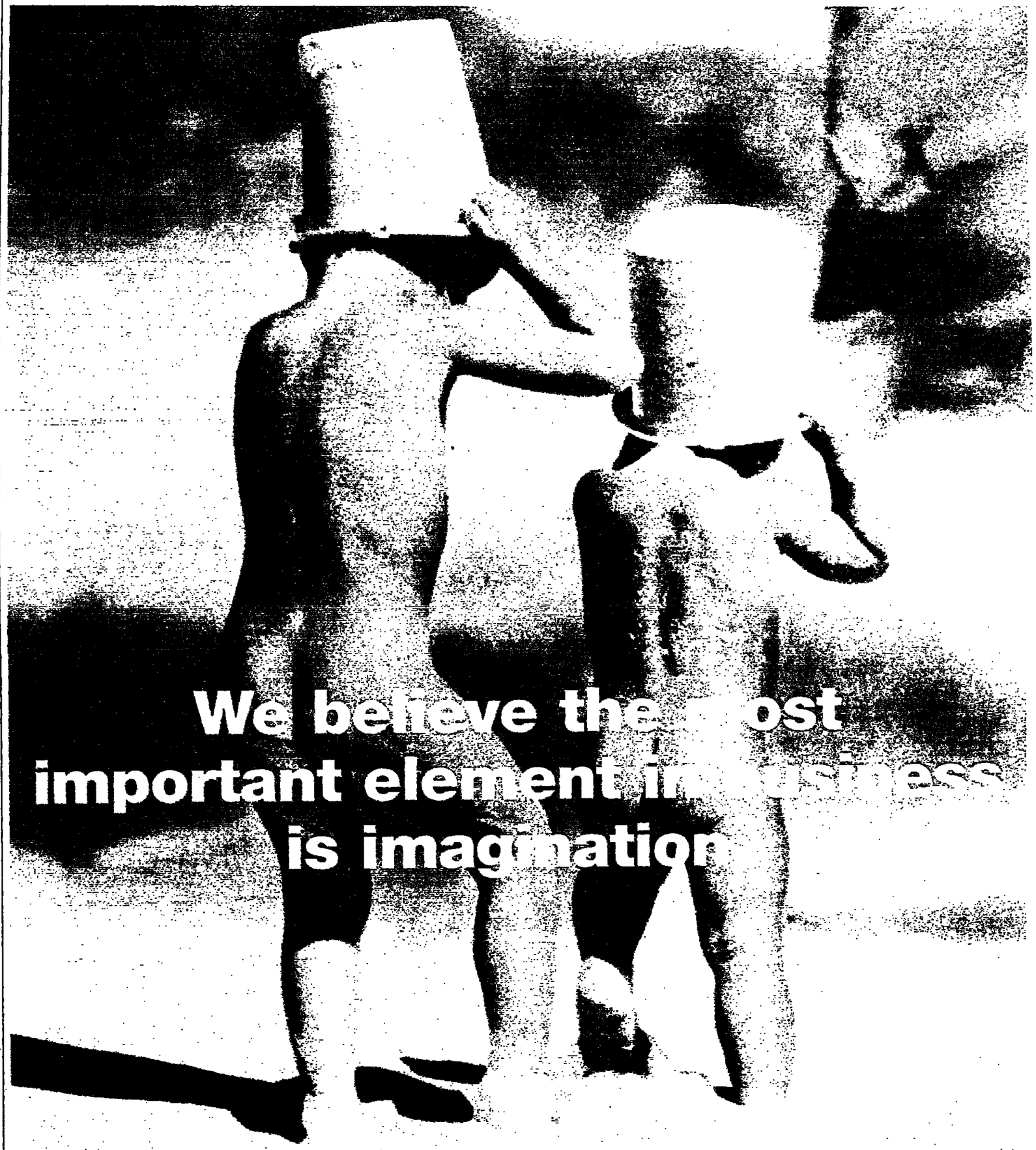
They aimed to surprise him at the party's October conference with a show of strength that would frighten him away from the idea of a ballot to give his sceptical line on the single European currency rank-and-file endorsement. Mr Hague realised that this was a moment of truth, and decided to bring the battle forward. He ordered his office to draw up plans to outflank the Europhiles.

Until then, it had been in Mr Hague's mind to hold a ballot well before next year's elections to the European Parliament. But now the matter was urgent.

Back at Conservative Central Office, his close advisers at first suggested that he might use his opening speech to the Bournemouth conference to announce the ballot. It was only when one pointed out that the party's computerised database of its 350,000 members was almost complete that the prospect of holding the vote — and announcing the result — before the conference emerged.

Explaining his move yesterday, Mr Hague spoke emotionally about last year's general election. Disunity over Europe was, he said, "an argument that has debilitated and divided our party for too long. I vowed to myself that night that we would never let such a defeat happen again. I vowed that never again would we allow the electorate to see us as divided and out of touch."

His aides said the idea of the ballot was to remove the last obstacle between the Tories and electoral success.



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Fragments has opened a new literary debate

Testimony of Holocaust 'survivor' denounced as fiction

BY ROGER BOYES

A BEST-SELLING memoir of a child's nightmarish experiences of Majdanek and Auschwitz concentration camps has been denounced as a work of imagination, triggering a fierce debate among scholars of Holocaust literature.

Fragments, by Binjamin Wilkomirski, published in 1995, claims to be the childhood of a young Jewish boy from Riga who, after surviving the death camps, was adopted by Swiss parents. His memories were repressed not only by his foster parents but also by the tight corset of Swiss society. Now, after psychotherapy, his memories have come flooding back.

They are very graphic: he tells of the blood shooting out of the neck of his father, of the rats scrambling over the mountains of corpses. His Swiss experiences prompt flashbacks — a teacher reminds him of a concentration camp guard, the ski teacher of an executioner.

The book was extravagantly praised in *The New York Times Book Review* and elsewhere for its descriptive powers. One reviewer, the children's book author Maurice Sendak, said it was final proof that children, in particular children of the Holocaust, can hang on to the very earliest of memories.

But the Swiss writer Daniel Ganzfried found some episodes unbelievable and decided to investigate. He dug deep and — as he reports in this week's *Weltwoche* of Zurich — discovered that almost nothing added up.

Wilkomirski's real name is Bruno Doesseker, a Swiss citizen who was indeed adopted. But birth certificates and school records show that his childhood was not spent in concentration camps. Rather he was born, illegitimately, in Switzerland on February 12, 1941. Wilkomirski contests this: "That date has nothing to do with my life history nor with my memories."

Mr Ganzfried and other critics say there would be no objection to presenting the book as a novel, but the author has been lecturing far and wide on the fate of the anonymous children from the camps as if he were one of them. His publisher, Suhrkamp, argues that the detailed reminiscences were revived as the result of "recovered memory therapy", the controversial method applied to suspected victims of child abuse. But the key element is Mr Doesseker's birthdate.

The Swiss are known for their bureaucratic thoroughness. In wartime, and in the case of an illegitimate child, the birth certificate could have been inaccurately dated, but Mr Ganzfried holds this to be improbable.

The importance of the debate is that many on the far Right are contesting the details, and therefore the veracity, of the Holocaust. Witness accounts are essential. That is why Steven Spielberg set up the Shoah Foundation to interview survivors. Since many are in ill-health, and since the camps themselves are decaying, Holocaust biography has become more important than ever. Fake Holocaust testimony distorts the debate.

Schröder aims for gay vote to clinch victory

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THE four-times-married Social Democrat contender for the leadership of Germany, Gerhard Schröder, is wooing gay voters before the general election this month. Analysts claim that homosexuals and lesbians make up between 8 and 10 per cent of the population in many urban constituencies — enough to tilt the elections against Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor.

Herr Schröder has been giving interviews to the gay press. In the latest issue of *Hinnerk*, the Hamburg gay lifestyle magazine, he came out in favour of guaranteeing gays the same rights accorded in a heterosexual marriage.

The Social Democrat leader was one of the initiators in July of a draft law to establish social equality for homosexuals. He has also promised to help to reduce crime against homosexuals, about 30 of whom are murdered every year, say police.

Franz Müntefering, manager of the Social Democratic Party, told *Queer* magazine that, if the party wins the general election on September 27, the Government will introduce a comprehensive anti-discrimination law. The right of asylum, he said, will also be offered to homosexuals who are threatened with torture or persecution because of their personal identity.

If the Greens form a government with the Social Democrats — as appears possible, according to the latest opinion polls — the sexual reforms would be even more radical, since they back adoption rights for gay couples.

The Greens want to amend 50 different laws to prevent discrimination against homosexual couples. Gay rights groups complain that they are often evicted from their flats after the death of their partner.

At the level of local politics there are many gay councillors and deputies. Ida Schiller, a Green member of the Berlin state parliament, is trying to secure residential rights for foreign gay lovers who are expelled from Germany after their permits run out. Klaus Hilgert, a Green city councillor in Düsseldorf, is trying to make buildings available for gay youth centres and wants social care introduced for young male prostitutes.

The Christian Democrats and, above all, their Bavarian sister party, the Christian Social Union, are adamantly opposed to anything that might compromise their position on family values. When Social Democrat-controlled Hamburg decided to open its registry offices to homosexual couples, who are allowed to swear allegiance to each other in a symbolic, though not legally binding, ceremony, it came in for fierce criticism from the CSU. "Such a step flies in the face of the values enshrined in our Constitution," said a CSU spokesman.

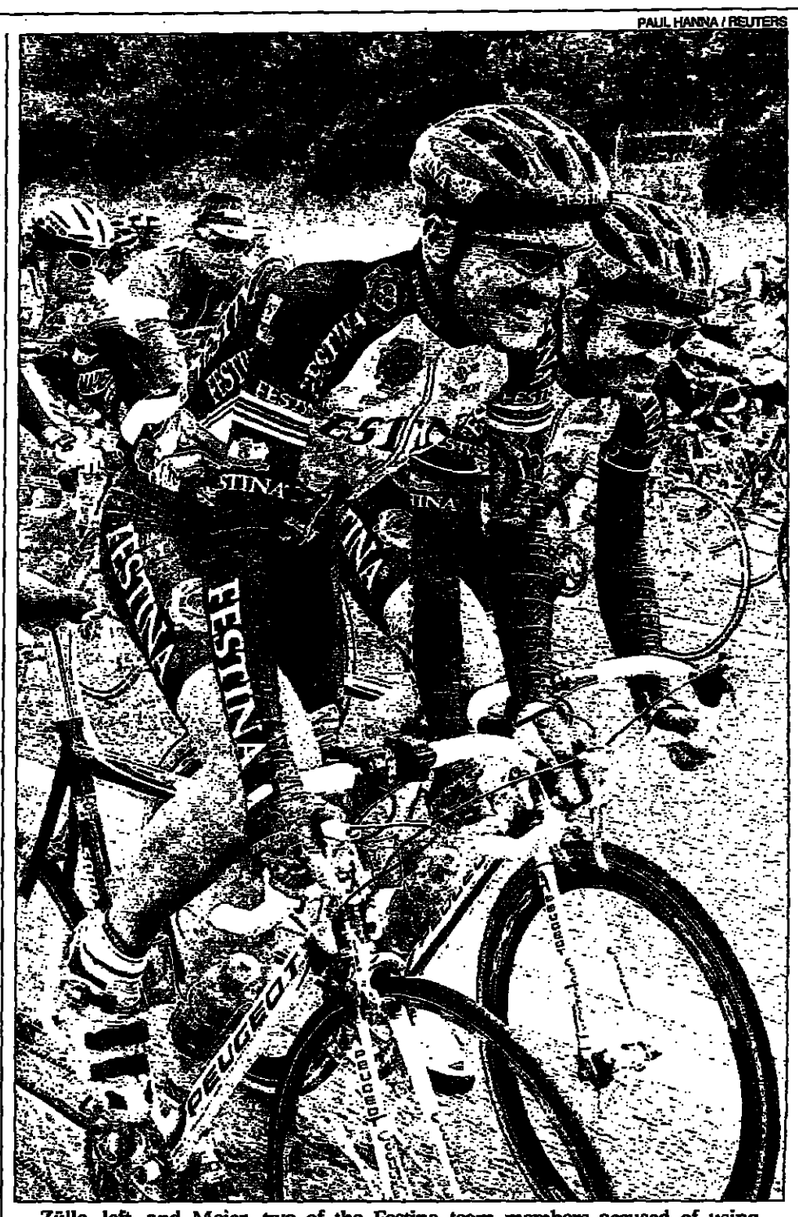
The importance of the so-called "pink vote" has grown rapidly since the last election in 1994, and the German parliament has one homosexual deputy, Volker Beck, the internal affairs spokesman of the Greens. He says that even Herr Kohl "accepts known homosexuals in his circle and has promoted a few of them".

Public opinion is also shifting quickly. In 1994 only 39 per cent of Germans thought that homosexuals should be allowed to marry. Now 48 per cent are in favour to 42 per cent against.

Adenauer denied to extreme Right

Cologne: The grandson of Konrad Adenauer, West Germany's first postwar Chancellor, won a court battle yesterday blocking the far-right Republicans from broadcasting an advert saying Adenauer would vote for them if he were alive. German broadcasters have refused to use the advert, saying it defamed Adenauer. *(Reuters)*

PAUL HANNA / REUTERS



Zülle, left, and Meier, two of the Festina team members accused of using performance-enhancing substances during the Tour de France race

Tour de France cyclists 'admit taking dope'

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

MOST members of the Festina cycling team have confessed to taking banned performance-enhancing drugs regularly under the supervision of team doctors, according to leaked police reports that will further tarnish the reputation of the sport after the debacle of this year's Tour de France.

Five of the eight Tour de France riders fielded by the Festina team, which was expelled from the competition this summer on suspicion of doping, described their drug-taking after they were brought in for questioning by French police on July 23.

Their testimony was leaked yesterday in the mass-circulation *France-Soir*, which compared the dope-taking riders to "drug addicts, reduced to injecting themselves in secret in their hotel rooms".

Champions Laurent Brochard and Alex Zülle told police they had not only taken EPO, the banned substance which increases the quantity of oxygen in the blood and so enhances performance, but also growth hormones.

A French rider, Christophe Moreau, described how cash was accumulated in a bank account in Andorra, part of which was used to pay for the drugs. The riders also alleged that such substances were routinely used before and during every big cycling tournament.

"I think that today you can find EPO in all the big cycling teams. Every cyclist knows perfectly well that if he does not use EPO he is going to be left trailing behind the rest of the pack," Mr Zülle reportedly told police. The Swiss Festina rider admitted using the drugs for four years "before every important race".

Armin Meier also described his use of the banned stimulant. "With Festina, I only had EPO," he told investigators. "Before coming to Festina, I got the products myself in Switzerland."

Two of the team members, Richard Virenque and Pascal Hervé, have denied using performance-improving substances, but others have described an organised system of sporting drug abuse closely supervised by team doctors.

"I cannot tell you the quantities that have been injected into me. I have on occasion injected myself. I have also used growth hormones," M Brochard was quoted as telling investigators, after initially denying any part in the doping scandal.

The French champion said that Bruno Roussel, the Festina team director, "kept us under permanent pressure for results. When I tried to stop taking EPO I asked myself the question whether I would be able to maintain my performance at the same level. So I did not dare stop".

Festina, the company at the centre of the doping row, appears to have suffered no commercial ill-effects as a result of its notoriety. As the Tour of Spain got under way last Saturday, the clock-making company was reported to be selling record numbers of watches in Spain and Portugal.

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Insults fly in Left Bank cafés as intellectuals court screen fame

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

FRENCH intellectuals have cast aside their highbrow prose and pretensions to swap playground insults in a row over their unstinting efforts to appear on television.

The man at the centre of the slanging match is Pierre Bourdieu, the most influential intellectual in France, a widely quoted academic in the world and a notoriously blunt speaker. "Pathetic", "incompetent" and "unconvincing" are some of the politer labels the sociologist attaches to other members of the country's intelligentsia.

The 68-year-old's latest tome is certain to ignite another row in literary circles. Jeannine Verdès-Leroux, a historian and one of M Bourdieu's foes, has also chosen to publish a book in which she accuses him of "hype" and "sociological terrorism". Her assessment is unlikely to shake the confident sociologist whose works sell more than 100,000 copies and help to shape thought and government policy.

Having set himself up as the successor to Jean-Paul Sartre, he has no time for critics. During the 1995 general strike over welfare reform, he came out in support of the unions and condemned as a "plague" the centre-left intellectuals who said France could not spend unlimited amounts on social security.

Since then, the man described by the news magazine *L'Express* as the "epicentre of French debate" has rubbished market economics and the "racist" immigration policies of the Socialist-led Cabinet. His new book, *Masculine Domination*, condemns the "male values" that he claims contaminate all societies. Pinpointing the difficulties faced by women, he writes: "It is very difficult to behave correctly when you are wearing a skirt."

But what started as a political argument has since turned into a vitriolic debate as M Bourdieu's friends and foes accuse each other, with some justification, of neglecting serious research in favour of cheap self-publicity.

The sociologist, for instance, recently dismissed a key work by Alain Minc, France's leading economist, as "crap". He also sank his teeth into Bernard-Henri Lévy, the flamboyant philosopher who frequents the fashionable cafés on the Left Bank. M Lévy, he said, was typical of a new breed of "negative intellectual" who thinks in clichés and talks in soundbites because of his "immoderate taste" for television studios.

While many Parisians share this view of M Lévy, they may have more difficulty in accepting M Bourdieu's analysis of his own destiny. "Having acquired so much prestige, I must bring to the world of politics the values of the intellectual world," he declares.

Mme Verdès-Leroux, for one, disagrees. "I am impervious to his theories and also to his manipulative activity in the intellectual domain, to the fact that he takes show-business too far," she wrote in *Le Figaro*. She accuses M Bourdieu of wooing the media with the same determination that he invariably denounces when others behave in a similar manner.

In a recent editorial, *Esprit* said the sociologist was guilty of "populism", "stupidity" and a "Stalinist approach" to anyone who opposes him. "With Bourdieu and his disciples, there is never the slightest trace of reasoned argument," the literary magazine said. Bernard Pivot, a literary critic who presents a weekly programme on French television, described M Bourdieu as "haughty, irritating, pontifical, dogmatic and elitist".

The adjectives are colourful, but the debate has done little to enhance the reputation of the French intelligentsia, still smarting from a highly critical book published last year by two physicists, Alan Sokal, an American, and Jean Bricmont, a Belgian.

The two physicists dismissed M Bourdieu's friends and enemies as a whole lot of "impostors".

Stargazers driven from papal paradise

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

ITALIAN astrologers yesterday hit back at the Pope for warning Roman Catholics "not to put their faith in the stars".

But his remarks have struck a nerve in Italy, where officials are alarmed by the increasing use of palm readers and soothsayers as well as the growth of sinister occult sects. Leading clairvoyants insisted their attempts to read the future were compatible with Christianity, and said the Bible was "full of astrologers", from the prophet Daniel to the Magi who followed the Star to Bethlehem.

During his weekly Angelus prayers on Sunday, the Pope observed that September is "the month for planning ahead after the summer break, a time for tackling problems and defining objectives". He added: "But we do not need horoscopes or magic predictions to help us to do this. What we need is real prayer, coupled with life choices which conform to God's laws." If people wanted to put their lives "on the right track", they should decipher God's plans rather than the planets, and "read the mysterious signals which He places in our everyday lives".



The Pope addresses the Castelgandolfo crowds

Vatican officials said the Pope's forthcoming encyclical on "false ideologies", entitled *Faith and Reason*, would be issued next week — a month earlier than planned — because of the pontiff's concern over the popularity of New Age movements.

Yesterday the Italian press gave extensive coverage to the Pope's attack on fortune-telling. Critics pointed out that there were many "astrologers" in the Old Testament. Daniel, the captive who became governor of Babylon, had successfully interpreted the dreams of King Nebuchadnezzar. "Even the Holy Inquisition failed to suppress astrology," said *Il Messaggero*, the Rome daily. "People still turn to clairvoyants rather than priests."

Francesco Ferruggia, of the Federation of Parapsychologists, Occultists and Magicians, said astrologers wanted "more respect for our profession. More and more people turn to us to resolve their love lives. They have a right to the truth, and revealing it is within our power".

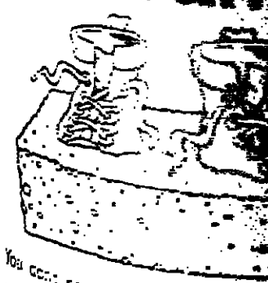
A leading clairvoyant called Annamaria said the Pope was right to call people to prayer, which offered comfort. "But our visionary gifts also come from God. I have 400 people telephoning me every day."

In Rome alone more than 500,000 people admit they regularly contact clairvoyants, many of whom sit at tables on the pavement reading the palms of passers-by. Horoscopes are read out on Italian state-run radio before the morning news, along with the weather forecast and traffic reports. Mgr Gaetano Bonicelli, the Archbishop of Siena, said there was "an army of 100,000 clairvoyants in Italy against only 30,000 priests".

Chris

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Christians say sorry for Crusades

Nine hundred years after Muslims were put to the sword, an army of reconciliation is marching on the Holy Land, Nicholas Blanford reports in Beirut

A GROUP of 16 Western volunteers has arrived in Lebanon to apologise to Arabs for the atrocities committed by the Crusaders, 900 years after the Christian warriors first set foot in the Holy Land.

The group, wearing T-shirts inscribed with "We apologise" in Arabic, plans to spend the next six months stopping people on the street to express their regrets for the carnage caused by their European forebears.

"Our reconciliation walk is the response of the hearts of Western Christians burdened by the atrocities committed by the Crusaders," Matthew Hand, an American and the programme's director, said. "We are ashamed of what happened during the Crusades and some of the Crusaders' mentality still persists in the West."

The group, from countries as diverse as the United States, Norway, France and Canada, took its message to the Hamra district of west Beirut yesterday to confront a bemused selection of shoppers, taxi drivers, street-sellers and students.

"My people killed men and women in your land a long time ago and I am very sorry for that," the Rev Tim Atkins from Guildford told two politely attentive Lebanese in a seashore café. "I want to talk to as many people as possible, especially the young," explained Mr Atkins, showing the two men snapshots of his family and church in England.

Before leaving their hotel they had received a briefing on local customs from Cathy Nobles, one of the organisers. "We explained to them that people in the East use less facial expressions than we do in the West, so they are not disappointed with an apparent lack of reaction," she said.

But for the Lebanese, the repentant foreigners provided a welcome diversion, although some were hazy on their knowledge of the Crusades.

"I do not know about history but I do know that our understanding with people in the West would accomplish peace faster in the south," said Mustafa Hammoud, referring to Israel's 20-year occupation of south Lebanon.

Each volunteer handed out cards with a printed apology on behalf of their ancestors, in English and Arabic. "Lebanon is characterised by sectarianism which tore it apart during 17 years of civil war," said Abdeljalil Hallak. "Their mission will be successful in our country because we have big hearts and understand what coexistence between Muslims and Christians means."

Mrs Nobles said that a large number of Americans had volunteered partly due to Washington's policies in the Middle East. "There are many in the Middle East today who perceive Americans as the new Crusaders and this is something we hope to redress."

Benjamin Gibson, 12, from the United States, the youngest volunteer, read dozens of books about the Crusades before embarking on the trip with his mother, Nancy. "I am apologising for something bad that my ancestors did a long time ago. I am ashamed it has taken us such a long time to come out and say it," he said.

The Crusades began in November 1095, when Pope Urban II called upon Western Christendom to take up the sword to "liberate the Holy Land". The Crusaders left a bloody trail in their wake as they marched across Anatolia (modern-day Turkey) and down the Levantine coast to Jerusalem.

The "reconciliation walk" began in Cologne in 1996 and has attracted 1,000 volunteers who have followed the route of the Crusaders through Eastern Europe and Turkey.

The volunteers, whose numbers are expected to increase in Lebanon over the next few months, plan to visit other Lebanese cities before leaving for Israel in March.

Their act of repentance ends in Jerusalem on July 15, the 900th anniversary of the sacking of the city, when up to 70,000 Muslims were put to the sword.

BIBLIOTHEQUE DE L'ARSENAL, PARIS



Richard the Lionheart, acclaimed as a chivalrous warrior, launched the Third Crusade in 1190. He did not reach Jerusalem, but his legacy was the capture of Cyprus from which future Crusades were to be launched



Saladin: declared jihad against Christians

Battles for Jerusalem

THE eight recognised Crusades were military expeditions organised by Western Christians against the Muslims to try to take control of Jerusalem and the Holy Land. They immortalised the men who fought on both sides, most famously Richard the Lionheart, and Saladin (Matthew Pryor writes).

Between 1095 and 1291 the Crusaders led armies of up to 50,000 men in sieges which often lasted several years and involved months of travelling. They left behind them quasi-feudal kingdoms, the last of which, Acre, survived until 1291. Richard I was the most famous Crusader from England, but while he epitomised the image of the chivalrous warrior, in reality he preferred planning sieges and designing siege engines to fighting. He never reached Jerusalem, but his legacy was the capture of Cyprus in 1192 from which future Crusades were launched.

Saladin was one of the greatest Muslim leaders and led the jihad (holy war) against Christians from 1169 until his death in 1193. He stopped Richard I from taking Jerusalem, sparking the decline of large-scale expeditions.

Jews still settling in disputed territories

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

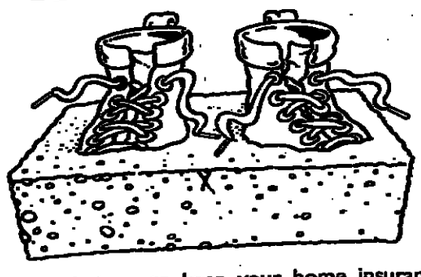
THE number of Jewish settlers in areas of the West Bank and Gaza Strip still under Israeli occupation has risen by 12.4 per cent in the past 18 months to a record of nearly 170,000, according to figures published yesterday.

The new figures showed that at the end of June 169,339 Jews were living in the two disputed areas — 163,173 of them in the West Bank and 6,166 in the Gaza Strip.

Confirmation of the rapid rise in the number of settlers, described by the Palestinians as the main obstacle to any lasting peace settlement, came only 48 hours before US special envoy Dennis Ross is due to start a new shuttle peace mission designed to break an 18-month stalemate in peace talks.

Despite repeated US requests for a halt to settlement expansion, Israel has insisted that what officials have described as "natural growth" of the settler population must be permitted to go ahead.

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Communists put Yeltsin on rack

The Duma's rejection of Yeltsin's candidate for Prime Minister gives him one less card to play, writes **Robin Lodge** in Moscow

ANALYSIS

PRESIDENT YELTSIN now has one week to decide whether to tackle the Russian parliament head on and force a crucial third vote on Viktor Chernomyrdin's candidacy as Prime Minister, or choose between three or four alternatives who would be more acceptable to the legislature.

To take the first option would be far riskier. The Duma is in fighting mood. While a number of Communists would be likely to cave in, particularly if offered the chance of a secret ballot, rather than risk losing their seats in new parliamentary elections, there is a growing awareness in the party that a capitulation would lose them all credibility.

The Opposition is showing a new unity of resolve and Mr Yeltsin cannot even be sure that the Duma would accept his orders for its dissolution should it vote three times against his choice as Prime Minister.

Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist leader, was already speaking last week of bringing people onto the streets and blocking roads into Moscow in order to defend parliament. Mr Yeltsin must decide now whether he is willing to repeat the showdown of October 1993 and the accompanying bloodshed — or climb down. Most people in the Duma yesterday thought it likely he would take the latter course.

Aleksandr Korzhakov, the President's estranged former chief bodyguard and confidant, speaking in the lobby before yesterday's vote, said he had few doubts about the next stage. He said: "Whatever happens, Chernomyrdin is finished, even if Yeltsin is mad enough to put him up a third time."

At the same time, abandoning Mr Chernomyrdin at this late hour would be a severe humiliation for Mr Yeltsin and his first major defeat at the Duma's hands. His attempts to wheedle a compromise out of his opponents at negotiations before yesterday's Duma session looked like the last desperate act of a man clinging to office. And as the vote showed, it came to nothing.

Now it is a question of damage limitation. For Mr Yeltsin to salvage any political authority after dropping Mr Chernomyrdin, he will need to create the impression that the eventual Prime Minister is still his choice, rather than that of the Duma. One way of wrongfooting his opponents would be to put up a candidate who unlike Mr Chernomyrdin enjoys widespread popular support, but is still anathema to the Communists.

Former General Aleksandr Lebed, the Governor of Krasnoyarsk, would be ideal from this point of view. He has, moreover, the backing of Boris Berezovsky, the industrial magnate and power broker, and has close links with Mr Chernomyrdin. The Communists, aware that if this third vote went against the candidate they would face dissolution of the Duma, might well be satisfied with their defeat of Mr Chernomyrdin and retire from the fray.

But whether Mr Yeltsin would risk installing a man who has in the past been one of his most vociferous critics and makes no secret of his own presidential ambitions is another matter. Mr Lebed would not be the kind of Prime Minister to bow to Mr Yeltsin's will and under his stewardship the President would be almost certain to fade into the background.

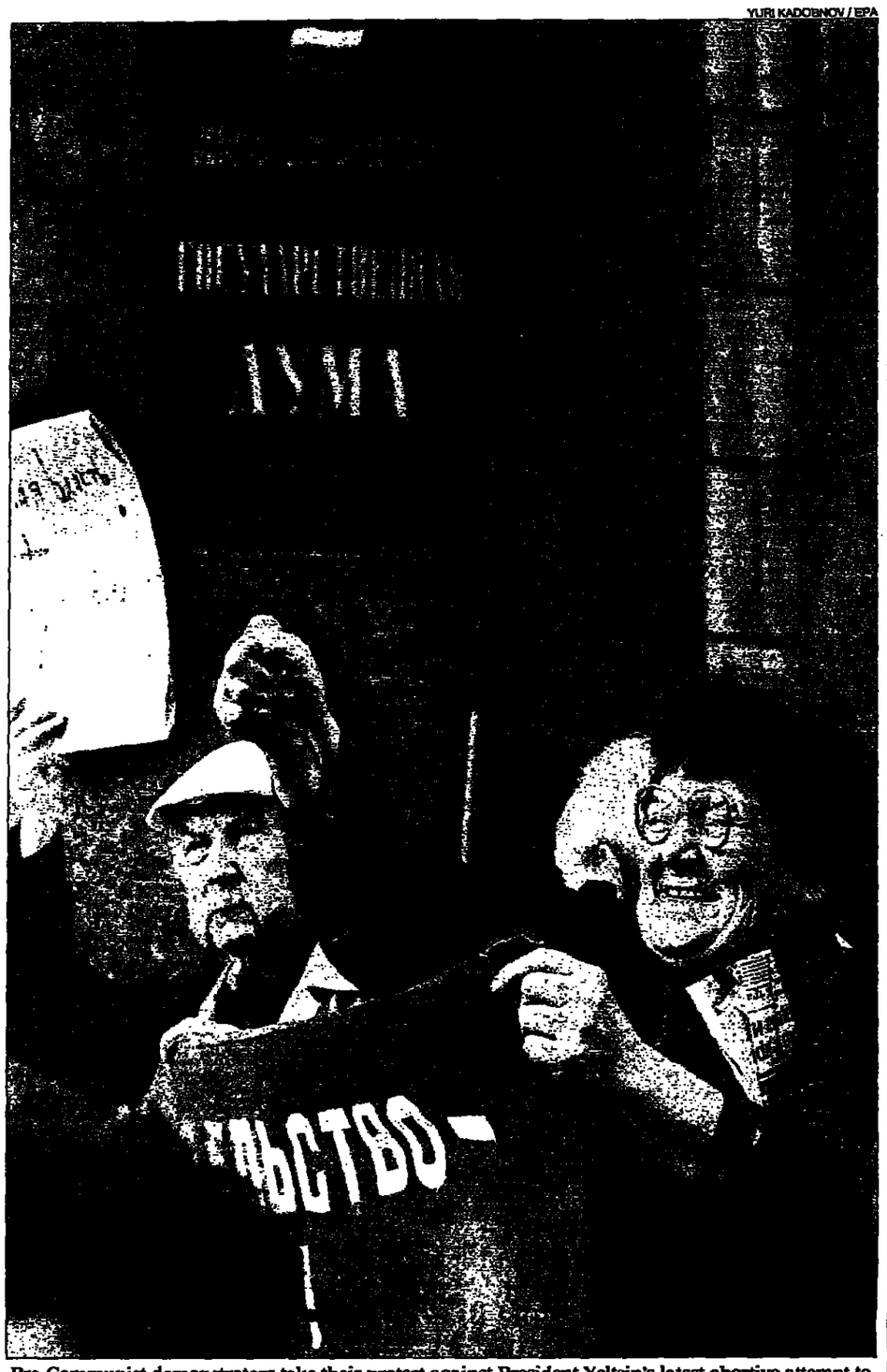
Duma leaders have indicated that they would accept Yegor Stroyev, the Chairman of the Federation Council, the upper house of parliament, Yuri Luzhkov, Mayor of Moscow, or Yevgeni Primakov, the Foreign Minister — and most analysts believe that Mr Yeltsin's choice is narrowed down to these three.

Mr Stroyev, 61, would be the least controversial of the three. He has built good relations with the regions and the Communists — while still remaining loyal to Mr Yeltsin. On the other hand, he appears to lack the dynamism needed to take Russia out of its present crisis.

Dynamism is certainly not lacking in Mr Luzhkov, who has overseen huge spending projects aimed at raising the profile of the Russian capital which have resulted in the creation of an island of prosperity far removed from the rest of the country. He is ambitious and yesterday took full advantage of the situation to harangue Mr Chernomyrdin's temporary government for its inertia over the past two weeks and called for emergency measures to deal with the financial crisis.

Mr Primakov, a former head of Russia's espionage service and veteran Soviet diplomat, has won respect from the Communists and other opposition groups for steering foreign policy away from the pro-Western stance of his predecessor, Andrei Kozyrev, while remaining stoically behind Mr Yeltsin. His standing was boosted yesterday by a declaration of support from Grigori Yavlinsky, leader of the liberal Yabloko faction. For Mr Yeltsin, he would appear to be the safest bet.

YURI KADOBNOV / EPA



Pro-Communist demonstrators take their protest against President Yeltsin's latest abortive attempt to install Viktor Chernomyrdin as his Prime Minister to the steps of the State Duma in Moscow yesterday

Rivals strut stage with gusto in parliamentary drama

BY ROBIN LODGE

DUMA SKETCH

FINE hours are few and far between at the Russian Duma, a chamber that is far better known for infighting, posturing and prevarication than for legislative achievements or weighty political debate.

Yesterday, however, it acted like a parliament, with the opposition and pro-government parties slogging it out on the podium. But politics make strange bedfellows. Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader, found himself singing very much the same tune as one of his most stalwart adversaries, Grigori Yavlinsky, who heads the pro-reform Yabloko faction. Both men were calling for the rejection of Mr Chernomyrdin, who they regard as discredited.

Mr Yavlinsky appeared quite carried away. "We in Yabloko are ready to take responsibility for dealing with the situation," he declared, raising a number of eyebrows from those more accustomed to Yabloko carping from the sidelines.

Not to be outdone, Mr Zyuganov sprang into action, eyes blazing, grasping the rostrum. Gone was the sneering, mumbling drone; he spoke with passion and fluency, even sounding as though he meant it. "There can be no economic dictatorship without political dictatorship," he thundered. And he should know.

The only man not enjoying himself was Mr Chernomyrdin himself, who had started off the session pleading in a gentle, reasonable tone for the Duma's backing. It soon became clear that this was not to be, and he sat scowling at the side of the hall.

Only when Aleksandr Shokhin, the charismatically challenged leader of the pro-Chernomyrdin Our Home is Russia, began a long-winded defence of the acting Prime Minister, did things revert to normal. The gallery emptied.

'Terror village' left in flames by Serbs

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN OSTROZUB



BELGRADE'S scorched earth policy was set to burn itself along another stretch of roadway in Kosovo yesterday, a day after Serb troops withdrew from an operation around Ponerac that left thousands more ethnic Albanians homeless.

Carts laden with women and children made a panicking exodus from Ostrozub, a town on the Malisevo-Orahevac road, about 30 miles southwest of the provincial capital, Pristina. The few Albanians lucky enough to have fuel in their vehicles raced past the carts northwards to a junction. There a few Kosovo Liberation Army fighters, who themselves seemed primed for flight, directed them to a mountain path leading eastwards to an area swollen with thousands of civilians camped along a river bank.

"Milicia, milicia," they shouted, pointing back in the direction from which they had fled. "Milicia" means police, but has become a buzzword for the coming flames.

Ostrozub was empty, a ghost town whose streets, dusted by recent shellfire, were occupied only by wandering dogs and abandoned livestock. Outside the southern end of town, two Serb anti-terrorist police, the grim augurs of misfortune, stopped us, while on the slopes beside them soldiers moved forward.

"Go back," they warned us, placated by a familiar routine of raised hands and fixed smiles. "There is no problem at the moment, but there is going to be a big problem soon. Terrorists are operating in this area."

Across the mountainside to the west, the ALbanians of Zatric, a village of 80 houses with a pre-destruction population of 100 people, were reflecting on what it means to have your home designated a "terrorist area" by the Serbs.

Last Thursday their village was one of a dozen in an arc around Ponerac to be hit by artillery. Pursued for two days by police and soldiers through a landscape of smoke and echoing gunfire, they were finally trapped in a ravine with a group of several hundred other people. Here their men were taken away for questioning by Serbs to an improvised detention centre in the school at Ponorac.

"The Serbs took us out one by one to question us in a separate room," said Lutfi Luta, 46, a detainee who was imprisoned there with his brother and two sons, the youngest of whom was 14 years old.

"They said, 'you are a terrorist, where is your gun? Do you want to die by a knife across your throat, by being shot, or hanged?' The question was the same for everybody. They beat some of the young men, and some did not come back after the questioning, among them my brother and one son. I don't know where they are."

Although the vast majority of the men were eventually freed, 60 have gone missing.

When the people of Zatric returned to their village last night, they found it in ruins, every house either gutted by fire or destroyed by shelling. All of their tractors and carts had been torched, along with all their possessions. The Serbs had spiked their well with petrol and slain their livestock in the fields. They have nothing.

WORLD IN BRIEF

Burma detentions block opposition

Rangoon: Burma's main opposition party said that the military Government had detained 110 of its members in the past two days in an attempt to thwart its plan to convene a "people's parliament" this month. The National League for Democracy (NLD) of Aung San Suu Kyi said those detained included 50 members who won seats in Burma's last general election eight years ago — a poll that the party won by a landslide only to see the military ignore the result.

A spokesman for the Government confirmed that NLD members had been detained to prevent the party convening parliament, something that "would not be permitted by any government in the world". He added: "I don't know how many [have been detained] but what is happening is that the Government is taking appropriate action to maintain and safeguard national security."

He said that the opposition action would have derailed national reconciliation efforts as well as stability. "In order to prevent that, the Myanmar [Burmese] Government will take appropriate action if they convene parliament" *(Reuters)*

Hun Sen orders foe's arrest

Phnom Penh: Cambodian authorities ordered the arrest of Sam Rainsy, a key opposition leader, for allegedly trying to provoke the killing of Hun Sen, the Prime Minister, and topple his Government, Mr Hun Sen said. Two grenades were thrown at Mr Hun Sen's house but no one was injured. Mr Rainsy, who had urged soldiers to turn their guns on their commanders and join the opposition, was holed up at the United Nations office here where the American, French, Australian, Canadian and Singaporean ambassadors met for hours. Mr Rainsy and Prince Norodom Ranariddh have refused to accept the result of the July 26 poll, alleging that Mr Hun Sen's party had won through fraud. Mr Hun Sen has also threatened to arrest the Prince. *(Reuter)*

Grenade injures 22 troops

Amberg, Germany: A hand-grenade injured 22 soldiers, five of them seriously, when it exploded during classroom training at a German army base. One of the soldiers was said to be in a critical condition after the accident at a tank unit's base here, about 40 miles east of Nuremberg in northern Bavaria. General Götz Gliemeroth, the base commander, said it was unclear why a live grenade was used in training in contravention of army rules. He added that an inquiry would establish if "gross negligence" or some other reason was the cause of the explosion. The army, however, said that it was ruling out sabotage. *(AP)*

Maltese victor picks team

Valletta: Eddie Fenech-Adami, Malta's pro-Europe Prime Minister, began consultations on forming a new Cabinet after his Nationalist Party won the elections held at the weekend. Party officials said Mr Fenech-Adami, 64, was expected to retain his key aides, including Guido de Marco and John Dalli, in the foreign and finance posts. Mr Marco served as Foreign Minister between 1989 and 1996. Critics have blamed Mr Dalli for the Nationalist Party's 1996 election defeat, a year after he introduced the unpopular value-added tax. *(Reuters)*

Women 'sterilised by force'

Rio de Janeiro: Brazilian authorities launched a judicial and police investigation into reports that a congressman, in the backwater northern state of Bahia, funded and organised the forceful sterilisation of dozens of women from the dwindling tribe of Pataxo Indians (Gabriella Gamini writes). Human rights groups and the Missionary Council of Indigenous Affairs reported they had found 61 women in Pataxo villages in southern Bahia who had suffered operations in which their reproducive organs had been mutilated.

Malaysia grip tightened

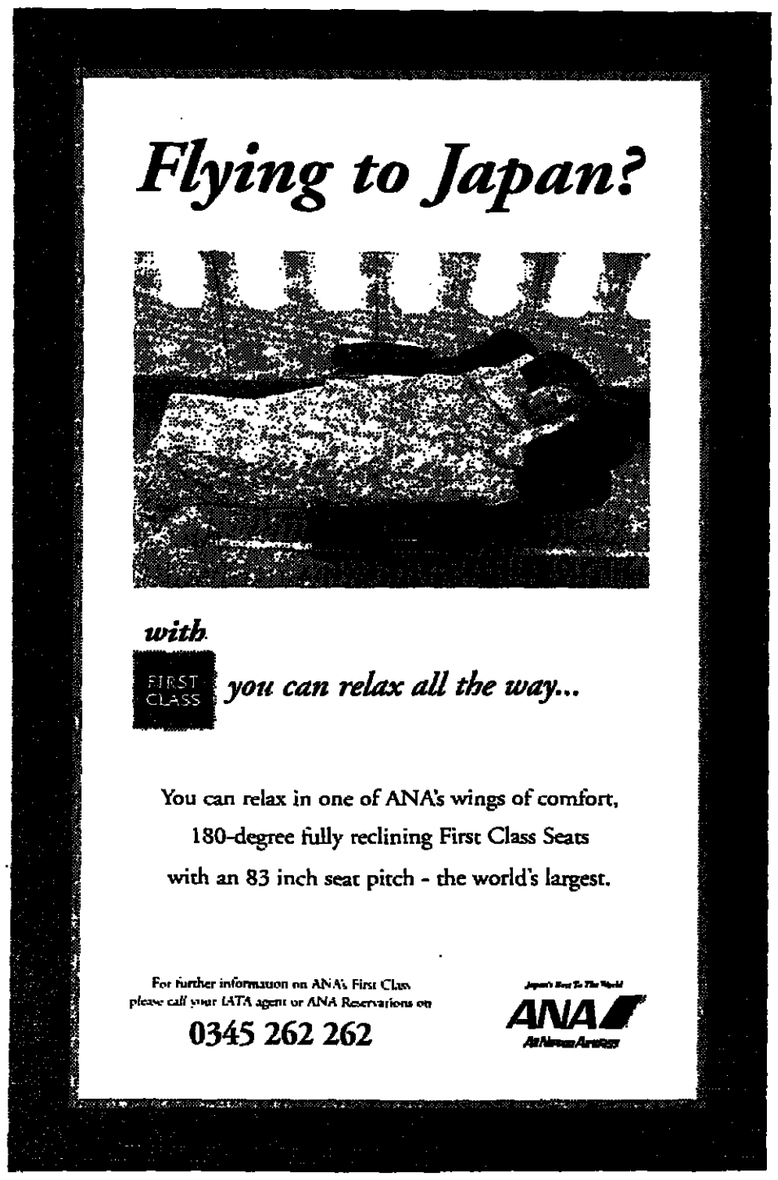
Kuala Lumpur: Mahathir Mohamad, the Malaysian Prime Minister, has tightened his grip on the economy by naming himself as Finance Minister and appointing Ali Abul Hassan Sulaimann, a key aide, to be governor of the central bank. "The Prime Minister is in complete control now. Economic policy in the future will be down to one man. Only time will tell if his policies are the correct ones," the chief economist at a foreign bank in Singapore said. *(Reuters)*

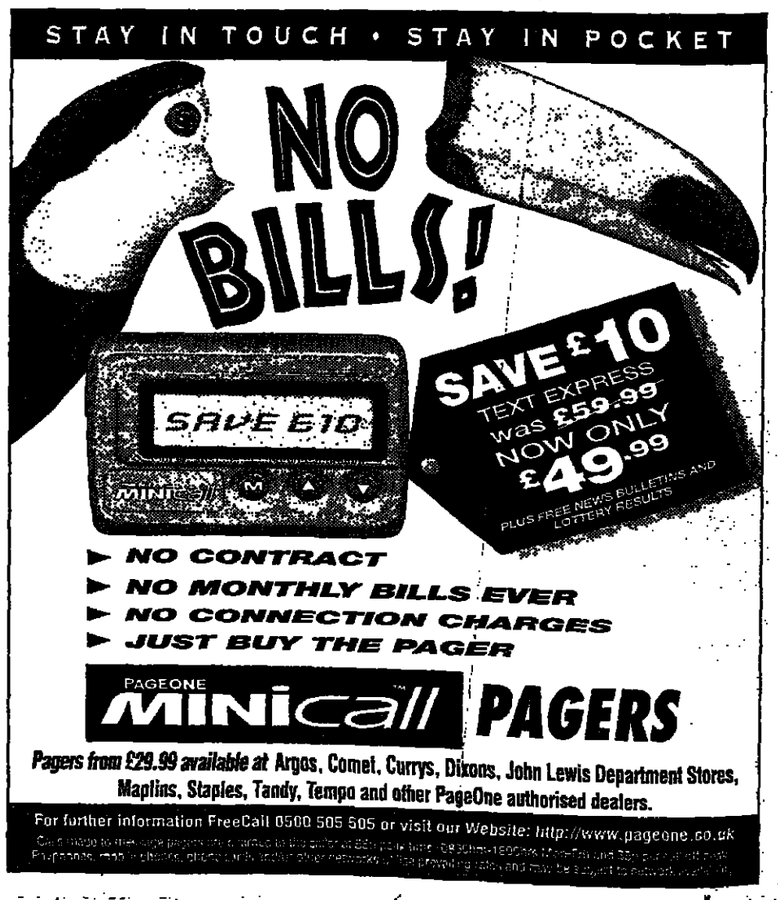
Protesters tear down gates

Jakarta: Hundreds of protesters tore down the gates of the Indonesian parliament and threw plastic bottles at police during a demonstration against President Habibie. Students want him to resign over his handling of the economy and put the former President Suharto on trial for corruption and repression. In a town in central Java, thousands of people burnt cars and looted nine Chinese-owned shops. *(AP)*

Japan orders poison inquiry

Tokyo: Keizo Obuchi, the Japanese Prime Minister, ordered an investigation after a wave of poisonings that killed five people. Police detected an agent, used in synthetic detergents, in a drink of canned tea bought at a convenience store by a woman who fell ill after drinking it. They found a pinhole sealed with glue in the bottom of the can. *(AFP)*





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Baptists exhort sinful Clinton to quit

FROM DAMIAN WHITWORTH IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton, who is being undermined more effectively by so-called friends than by political opponents, has now been told to resign by the head of his Church. The leader of the Southern Baptist Convention said that Mr Clinton should quit for the good of the nation.

As Mr Clinton braced himself for the report on his conduct by Kenneth Starr, the independent prosecutor, which could be delivered to Congress as early as this week, Paige Patterson, President of America's Southern Baptist Convention, said he should resign and seek forgiveness for his personal transgressions "before he is instrumental in corrupting all our young people". Mr Patterson, who is president of America's 16 million Southern Baptists, said that Mr Clinton was no different from other people seeking forgiveness. "If he'll repent and trust the Lord Jesus as his Saviour, he can be forgiven and can find what life is really all about." He went on to express concern that the American people appeared to be continuing to support the President simply because the economy was strong. "This bespeaks a certain enthralment with materialism which is exactly what caused the demise of Rome, to say nothing of 21 other great civilisations. And it will kill us, too."

The Southern Baptists, who, aside from President Clinton, count Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, and Trent Lott, the Republican Senate majority leader, among their number, comprise America's largest Protestant denomination, and Mr Patterson's words will resound throughout the Bible Belt. With many politicians expected to take note of public opinion before deciding how to act on Mr Starr's report, Mr Patterson's sermon at First Baptist Church, Linden, North Carolina, on Sunday will have alarmed Mr Clinton.

The President returned to Washington from his trip to Russia and Ireland to be savaged by fellow Democrats. Parris Glendening, the Democratic Governor of Maryland, cancelled a fundraising event with the President and Senator Daniel Moynihan of New York said that Mr Clinton's lies and misleading of the American public over the Monica Lewinsky affair were grounds for impeachment. Yesterday the respected Democrat, Representative Jim Moran, said that before the scandal had broken he had expected his party to win 12 seats in November's House elections. Now he believed 20 seats would be lost.

> "If he'll repent, he can find what life is really all about"

Mr Starr worked yesterday while most of Washington was closed for the Labour Day holiday. But his office was not available to comment on a report in *The Washington Times* that his dossier would be delivered to Congress tomorrow. Other reports suggested it could be ready for viewing by the House of Representatives' Judiciary Comittee by the end of the week.

Tomorrow Mr Gingrich will meet Richard Gephardt, leader of the Democratic minority, to decide how the report will be handled, in particular who will see the most explicit parts.

DeBakey, king of hearts, still going strong at 90

Ian Brodie talks to the man whose skills helped to save Yeltsin's life two years ago

PAT SULLIVAN / AP



Dr Michael DeBakey, the pioneer American heart surgeon, who still manages to perform two or three operations a week and says his hands remain just as steady today as they have ever been

Michael DeBakey, the father of modern heart surgery, was 90 yesterday. A man of inexhaustible energy, he was up as usual at five, worked all day and did not go to bed before eleven. Amazingly, he still performs two or three operations a week, without a trace of age tremble in his hands. "They're just as steady as they've ever been," he said.

"I don't have any arthritis and my fingers move beautifully." A recent observer who watched him perform a quadruple bypass said he moved like a dancer in a *pas de deux*, anticipating his surgical partner's every move with scalpels, scissors and forceps.

Dr DeBakey successfully completed the first such operation in 1964, using a leg vein to reroute blood around a blocked coronary artery. In his prolific career he has performed some 65,000 heart and blood vessel operations. He said: "The figure is approximate because I don't have records of all the operations I did more than 50 years ago." The most in one day was 17. "That wasn't a normal day, but people were coming to me from all over the world and I couldn't put them off."

His base is Baylor College of Medicine in Houston where, from 1948, he has been president, chancellor and now chancellor emeritus. Perhaps his proudest achievement has been the training of more than 1,000 international surgeons.

Two years ago Dr DeBakey was summoned to Moscow as a consultant for the team performing a quintuple bypass on President Yeltsin. Mr Yeltsin called him a "magician of the heart". Now he has just returned from advising Azerbaijan about its new heart hospital. Later this month, meetings and lectures will take him to five countries and 12 cities in 12 days.

Nearly 6ft tall, he weighs just 11st 6lb and attributes his good health to remaining active and a life of moderation. "I don't eat a great deal and I'm often too busy for lunch. I eat a wide variety of fruits and vegetables, chicken and seafood, but red meat only occasionally. I don't imbibe any alcohol. A glass of wine with dinner is probably all right. Some scientists say it may even be useful, but I don't know. Certainly excessive drinking can be bad for the heart muscle."

In striving for a healthy heart, he says, no one can change their genes, but they can reduce high blood pressure and cholesterol, stop smoking, take moderate exercise and watch their weight. He thinks the best exercise for those over 65 is to walk two miles a day. His exercise comes from striding around his hospital and in walking up six flights to his office.

The son of Lebanese immigrants, he was taught to sew by his mother before he was five. It is a skill he still uses in operations. During the Second World War he developed the first mobile army surgical hospitals, made familiar by Hollywood as *M*A*S*H*. He invented the first artificial artery, the first treatment for strokes by removing fatty blockages from neck arteries, and the first graft replacement for the aortic artery. He performed early heart transplants but stopped until convinced that new drugs prevented organ rejection. He is now working on an implantable heart pump.

Dr DeBakey's first wife died of a heart attack. He met his second, a German, at a party at Frank Sinatra's house. He is a man of big ego, impatient with sloppiness and time-wasting. To the annoyance of some, he has always courted publicity. His official biography calls him the "Texas Tornado" of medicine.

Thirty years ago he hurried me down a corridor at Baylor into an observation room where I stared through a window into the open chest and beating heart of his next patient. Someone had tucked a playing card into the window frame. It was the king of hearts.

Iranian frontier troops cut off Taleban opium route and cash

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

THE flow of illegal drugs to Britain and the rest of Europe could be disrupted by Iran's military build-up along its border with Afghanistan, diplomats said yesterday. This was seen as the one positive development from the feud between the two countries. About 80 per cent of the heroin sold in Britain comes from Afghanistan.

The presence of 70,000 Iranian troops has helped to seal the 625-mile border, causing the price of opium in Iran to double since it began war games last week aimed at intimidating the Taleban militia that controls most of Afghanistan. Iranian leaders said they have no plans to invade, but suggested they would keep a sizeable force in the area.

The military presence appears in part designed to alleviate the pressure on the Iranian-backed Afghan opposition by stretching Taleban forces. The Taleban was reported to have rushed hundreds of fresh troops to the border region, while in the east of the country it lost a strategic hilltop post north of the capital, Kabul, to forces of Ahmed Shah Masood, the opposition's key commander.

Less directly, Iran's muscle-flexing could harm Taleban's finances if there is a prolonged disruption to heroin exports from Afghanistan while traffickers develop alternative routes. Tehran has accused the Taleban of boosting the production of illegal drugs to fund its military operations.

President Khatami recently called on the international community to establish a *cordon sanitaire* around Afghanistan to cut off drug routes.

Drug abuse is of mounting concern in Iran, where 65 per cent of the country's 70 million population are aged under 25. Iranian officials say there are 500,000 addicts, 150,000 of them on heroin. Local media put the figure at one million and say addicts can sustain a habit for £3 a day.



Beside rocket launchers mounted on trucks, Iranian troops stand vigil on the Afghan border this week

The war against drugs represents a shared point of interest between Iran and Europe, which has praised Tehran's efforts at cracking down on traffickers. Britain is offering financial aid. It is the main bilateral donor to the United Nations Drug Control Programme in Iran, having contributed more than £2 million over the past three years.

Iran's fight against drug trafficking from Afghanistan and Pakistan began long before the Taleban came to power and it has paid a heavy price. Nearly 2,500 Iranian soldiers and police have died over the past 15 years in daily battles with smugglers so well organised and armed they have managed to shoot down police helicopters.

Despite popular pressure in Iran to punish the Taleban, which is thought to have killed ten Iranian diplomats captured last month, analysts said last night Tehran was unlikely to become directly involved in a country that proved such a quagmire for Soviet forces in the 1980s.

Morality debate divides brothers

BY IAN BRODIE

WILLIAM and Robert Bennett, brothers at the peak of their careers, have clashing roles in Washington's main preoccupation — President Clinton's sex life.

Robert's skills as a defence lawyer contributed mightily to the dismissal of the Paula Jones sexual harassment suit against Mr Clinton.

William's talents as a conservative essayist have produced a best-selling book that is a tirade against the President. It is called *The Death of Outrage: Bill Clinton and the Assault on American Ideals.*

The cultural and political divide between the brothers leaves one of them intent on saving Mr Clinton, the other on savaging him.

While Robert the lawyer was working to get Mr Clinton off the hook, William the moral philosopher was composing words that castigate the President for a pattern of "skulduggery, half-truths, stone-walling, breaches of ethics" and contempt for the law.

Yet the brothers remain close, retaining a bond forged during an unsettled childhood in Brooklyn. Older brother Robert was often summoned as William's defender against bullies. He jokes: "I'm glad to have turned out as I did, and not as a Mafia hitman."

Both are beefy and outspoken with a sentimental streak. As lovers of good food, they meet regularly at The Palm, a Washington power-lunching spot.

Robert persuaded the Jones case judge to accept a definition that excluded oral sex and led to Mr Clinton denying relations with Monica Lewinsky, and pleaded in vain with Mr Clinton not to appear before the Lewinsky grand jury. As a result of the President's testimony, the Jones case could now be reopened.

Squabbling dashes Congo peace hopes

FROM JAN RAATH AT VICTORIA FALLS

A CONFERENCE of seven African heads of state intended to seek a resolution to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo yesterday turned into a deeply fractious affair that appeared to promise more fighting.

The meeting was arranged at the summit of the Non-Aligned Movement in Durban last week, with the coaxing of Kofi Annan, the Secretary-General of the United Nations. It was hoped a ceasefire agreement could be secured by all parties in the war and a withdrawal of the forces of the five foreign governments involved.

But as the meeting progressed it became clear that Mr Annan's overtures for peace had failed and the positions of President Kabila and his allies from Zimbabwe, Angola and Namibia, against those of the rebel Tutsi coalition and its supporters, Uganda and Rwanda, had hardened considerably.

The summit was the first sign of hope for a settlement in a conflict that has aroused concern that it may spread beyond the borders of Congo. The Zimbabwean position was apparently stated in the state-controlled *Herald* newspaper: the summit was "to discuss the terms of surrender for the invading forces and how their repatriation can be monitored".

The rebels' stance was directly contrary: "There will be no ceasefire before political negotiations [over the future of Congo] and no ceasefire before troops from Zimbabwe, Angola and Namibia have gone," said Arthur Zahida Ngoma, the rebel coalition's vice-president.

ALAN CLARK FORUM



Alan Clark, the Tory MP, historian and celebrated diarist, will be speaking on his new book, *The Tories: Conservatives and the Nation State 1922-1997* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £20) at a Times/Dillons Forum on Wednesday, September 16, 1998.

The forum will be chaired by Peter Stothard, Editor of *The Times*, and there will be an opportunity to put questions to the former Minister.

The forum, the 50th in the Times/Dillons Forum series, will take place at 7.30pm at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1. The admission price of £10 (concessions £7.50 for students, pensioners and the unemployed on production of valid I.D.) includes a reduction of £2 on copies of *The Tories*.

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Please note that tickets will be posted until September 9 only. Tickets booked after this date will be held for collection on the night at the venue. If you do not receive your tickets please call 0171 636 1577 to confirm your booking.

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RICHARD BRANSON: THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY

If I was going to stop BA's 'dirty



In the second extract from his autobiography, **Richard Branson** tells of his search for evidence in his fight against British Airways, and his outraged reaction to the questions of talk show host Clive Anderson

HARRY BORDEN/KATZ PICTURES



True grit: "I felt as though I had just witnessed a crime, and it was doubly strange knowing that I was the victim"

Kuwait had just been invaded by Iraq and the world was in a tailspin. The price of aviation fuel had rocketed from 75 cents a gallon to $1.50. In the first week after the invasion, Virgin Atlantic received 3,000 cancellations. We had a £25 million overdraft facility with the bank and were well on our way to £50 million. I wondered how far we could go before the bank asked us to do something about it.

One day Will Whitehorn, the corporate affairs director, came into my office looking worried. "I've had a call from a friend at Rothschilds," he said. "Apparently Lord King was there for lunch yesterday and he was bad-mouthing Virgin Atlantic."

At a time like this an accusation of financial weakness could rapidly become a self-fulfilling prophecy, particularly when it came from as lofty and authoritative a source as Lord King of Wartnaby, the [then] chairman of British Airways.

The next week we heard that a detective agency called Kroll Associates was investigating me and the whole Virgin Group. More alarming proof emerged of some kind of campaign against me and Virgin with a letter from an ex-BA man who revealed that the airline had set up a special team to undermine Virgin.

The evidence soon showed up in our press coverage. One Monday morning in June 1991, a small piece entitled VERDICT ON VIRGIN stood out in the sheaf of press cuttings I looked through. The journalist was Frank Kane, who wrote for *The Sunday Telegraph*. Lord King also happened to be a non-executive director of the paper.

"Perhaps it was just a bad day but one of Virgin's passengers was clearly not impressed with the service in upper class. An entry in the visitors' book read: 'No wonder your boss travels round the world in a balloon'."

It sounded all wrong to me. We had so few passenger complaints that I felt sure that the crew would have alerted me to this one. I found the entry in the visitors' book. It read exactly as Frank Kane had quoted it, but he'd missed out the punchline: "But seriously, I had a great time."

All the other quotes about that flight were highly complimentary. I wrote to *The Sunday Telegraph* pointing out that what was a casual joke to a journalist meant many thousands of lost pounds to Virgin Atlantic — and to my bankers.

Later in the week Chris Hutchins from *Today* called about a potential gossip story planted by Brian Basham.

"Who's he?"

"BA's PR man. He is to Lord King what Tim Bell is to Lord Hanson. He told me that he'd been doing a detailed study of BA on Virgin's operations, its strengths and weaknesses."

I realised that I was a clearly defined target. It was a frightening sensation.

I was due to do a live television interview with Clive Anderson, the talk show host. I walked on to the set but could hardly hear what Anderson was saying. He jabbered away about Virgin Atlantic as if it was fair play to pull it to pieces. It's so easy to pull something to pieces, I thought; it's so much more difficult to build it up.

"Now, what about these balloon flights?" Anderson was saying. "Is there nothing you won't do for publicity?" I began to answer him but I could tell he wasn't really interested. I stared at him with mounting indignation and fury.

I looked at his balding head, which had been powdered so that it wouldn't shine through his remaining hair. No, I thought, you can take as much piss out of me as you like, but I've worked flat out for 20 years to build up one of the biggest private companies in the country and the Virgin brand name, and now I've got BA trying to put me out of business and chuck all my staff out on to the street. Unless I can do something pretty extraordinary in the very near future, I'm going to go bust. And now I'm sitting here in front of a witty journalist who feels that he can ridicule me for trying to run a good airline.

I scarcely heard the rest of Anderson's comments. I smiled at him with gritted teeth, stood up, picked up my glass of water and poured it over his head. I then walked out of the studio, brushed through the sound engineers and tried to find my way out to the street to get some fresh air.

"Oh well," Anderson said, mopping at his hair and jacket. "I've only got one thing to say to that: fly British Airways."

Chris Hutchins came to see me on Sunday, October 27, 1991, and I sensed that he was caught in a dilemma. He was due to have lunch with Brian Basham. I wanted him to go with a hidden microphone to record whatever was said.

"If I'm going to stop BA, then I need proof. We need either a transcript of the conversation or a recording of what is being said."

Hutchins was reluctant to oblige. "I don't think I could secretly record him."

We sat in silence. I let it build up and decided not to break it.

"All right," he finally agreed. "I won't get any more BA upgrades but what the hell."

I had a long wait before Chris reported back.

"He was talking about how a plane of yours would fall out of the sky. He kept calling Virgin a 'dicky business'."

I couldn't wait to hear the tape. This is the turning point, I thought to myself: if I ever come out on top against British Airways, it is because of this moment.

But the tape was just a maddening combination of whistles and hisses. I heard a buzz of raucous scratching, as if Chris had picked up a jammed radio station. Then, quite clearly, I heard Basham's voice say "Dicky business ...." And then there was another, amusingly ironic, comment: "I'll have to get this place swept for bugs ..." After several more agonising minutes of hiss and crackle I heard Chris asking where the loo was and being directed to one near the front door. The clearest part of the recording was hearing Chris unzip his flies and have a long, substantial pee. Then it cut off. This was hardly the tape that was going to break British Airways.

"I tell you what," I said. "I'll take the tape over to our sound engineers and see if they can cut some of that background noise."

An hour later I was in the recording studios listening to what sounded like a slick and well-rehearsed briefing. Basham was saying: "The pattern with Branson is that he has lots of schemes going on, some of them big capital eaters. What Branson does, he runs his cashflow close to the wire all the time and just before he runs out of cash he refinances."

When Chris Hutchins asked him about

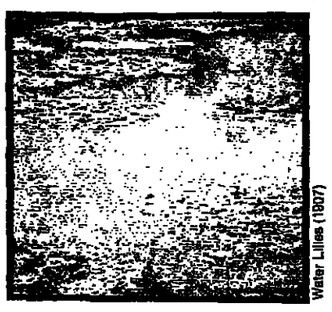
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The Water-Lily Pond (1900)


Houses of Parliament, Sunlight Effect (1903)


Water Lilies (1907)

Today *The Times* and the Royal Academy of Arts offer readers the first 50,000 tickets for *Monet in the 20th Century*, sponsored by Ernst & Young, which is on show at the RA, Piccadilly, London W1, from January 23.* Booking is open exclusively to *Times* readers until September 14. You can see the exhibition between January 23 and February 22, 1999. *Monet in the 20th Century* brings together 80 outstanding paintings by the founder of Impressionism. Highlights include dazzling scenes of Monet's garden at Giverny, luminous views of London and Venice and seven of his monumental water lily panels, one of which has never been seen in public before.

The Royal Academy is adopting a system of timed entry to help to avoid queues and overcrowding in the galleries.
*See Painting of the Day, page 20.

23 January - 18 April 1999
MONET IN THE 20TH CENTURY
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HOW TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS

The gallery is open from 9am to 6pm Sunday to Thursday and from 9am to 10pm on Friday and Saturday. Tickets cost: adults £9; concessions £6: 12-18 years £3: 8-11 years £1.50, plus a booking fee of £1.80 per person for up to five tickets and £1.40 per person for bookings of six or more tickets. Call the credit card hotline, below, with details of the date and time of day between January 23-February 22 you would like to visit the exhibition. Lines open daily 8am-10pm until September 26.

HOTLINE: 0870 842 2200

WIN A TRIP TO BOSTON

To celebrate the *Monet in the 20th Century* exhibition, the Royal Academy of Arts and city-break specialists City Escapades, have joined forces to offer a *Times* reader the chance to win a holiday for two in Boston, USA, where they can see *Monet in the 20th Century* before Christmas.

The prize consists of three nights' bed and breakfast for two people at the distinctive Le Meriden hotel. Flights courtesy of British Airways.

HOW TO ENTER

Readers who book Monet tickets before September 26 will be entered into a prize draw to win the Boston trip. If you do not wish to go to the exhibition, enter by sending your name and address on a postcard to: *The Times/Monet in the 20th Century*, PO Box 5078, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 7GB.

For details of autumn breaks to 50 cities including Boston, call 0181 563 8959

The holiday must be taken between October 1 and December 15 1998, is subject to availability and is non-transferable. The holiday is based on two people sharing a twin/double room and does not include meals, apart from breakfast, transfers or holiday insurance.

CITY Escapades

CHANGING TIMES

Risking all on a rescue mission

I was watching the news when I saw the extraordinary footage of Saddam Hussein surrounded by the British nationals who had been detained in Baghdad. The reporters were expecting that the hostages would be used as "human shields" and would be incarcerated inside the prime Allied targets.

I had no idea how I would set about helping to bring these hostages home but I knew that Virgin Atlantic had an aircraft and that, if we could somehow obtain permission to fly into Baghdad, we would be able to pick up any hostages whom Saddam agreed to release.

I began talking to the Foreign Office. I tried to get the medical details of those people stuck in Baghdad so that we could "prove" they were ill. I then called around other foreign embassies to alert them that there might be a rescue flight going into Baghdad and that they should try to get people on it by showing "proof" that they were ill.

Then we got a response from Saddam. He promised us that he would release the women and children and the sick hostages, but said he wanted someone of stature to be flown in to ask him publicly to do so. I telephoned Edward Heath and asked him whether he would do so. He agreed. The next day we flew Heath out to Amman, the Jordanian capital, where King Hussein arranged for him to go to Baghdad.

A day later King Hussein phoned me: "I have good news for you, sir," he said. He was impeccably polite and always addressed people as "sir" or "madam", as did his children. "You can set off for Baghdad. I have Saddam's word that you will be safe."


Saddam Hussein: hostages

Although I knew I was risking everything on this flight, I also knew by now that there was no backing out.

By flying into Baghdad and rescuing the hostages, Virgin had again usurped British Airways' traditional role. At the time I had no idea that the Virgin flight into Baghdad would annoy Lord King so much. I was trying to help out — I had an aircraft at my disposal and I could act quickly. Although this plane was one of just four planes that Virgin Atlantic operated, suddenly we looked like a much larger airline. We had successfully negotiated with Saddam: we had carried in medical supplies; and we had brought back the hostages. I found out only later that Lord King's indignant reaction was the start of an entire campaign by British Airways to try to put Virgin Atlantic out of business.

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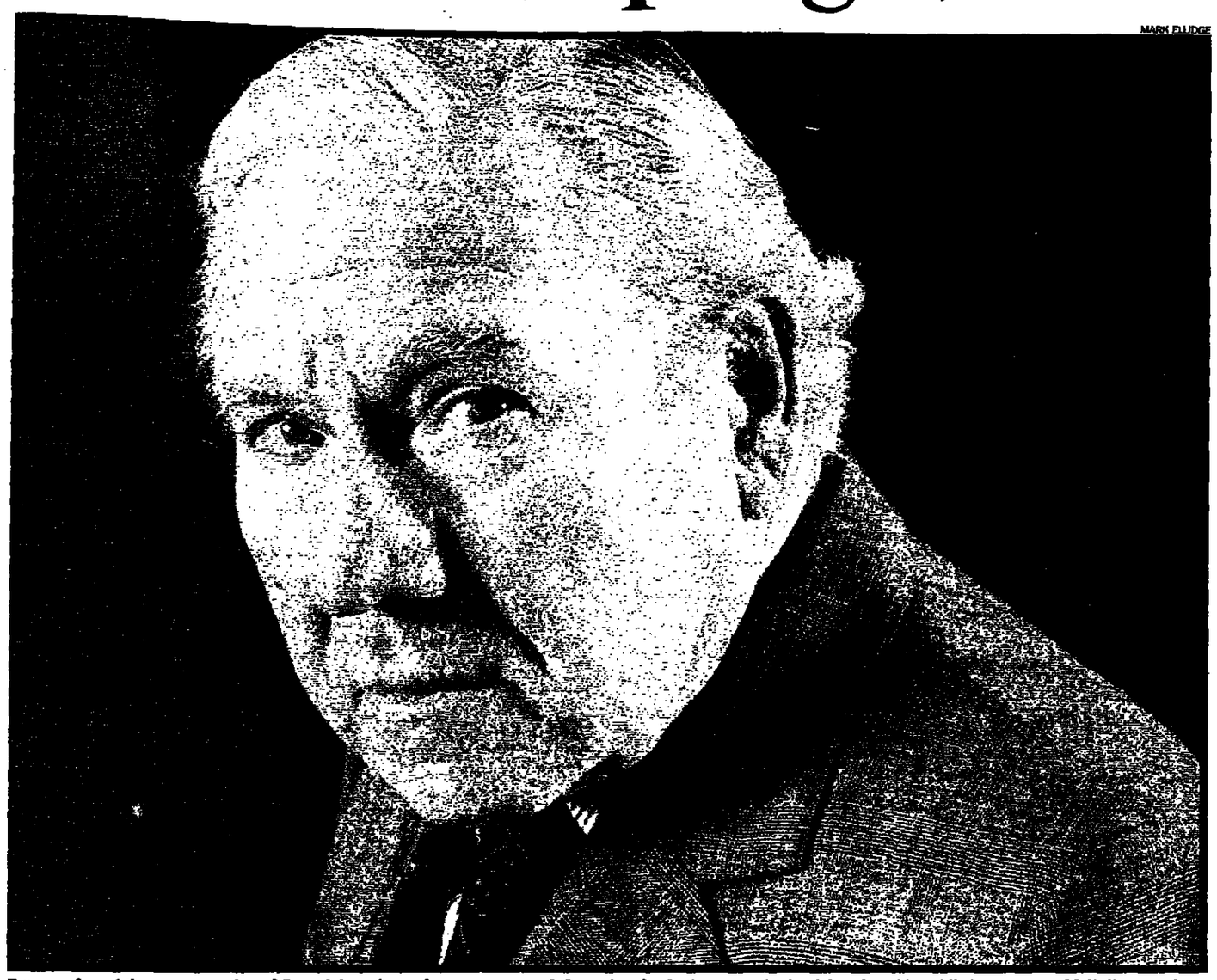
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RICHARD BRANSON: THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY

tricks' campaign, I needed proof


MARK ELLIDGE

Branson feared that an accusation of financial weakness from someone as lofty and authoritative as Lord King [above] could rapidly become a self-fulfilling prophecy

the Government's decision to allow Virgin to fly to Tokyo, Basham's voice became warmly persuasive: "I think it's scandalous, for two reasons. First of all, I think he runs a dicky business, just dicky. Bits of it are good, but I think it's dicky.

"I think that for the Government to give these routes, which are really big assets, to a businessman is bad news, scandalous. To take those routes away from a business which has been privatised, where you've got lots and lots of shareholders, and take it away from all those private shareholders and give it to somebody who's got a privately run business, is, I think, doubly scandalous."

Basham then smoothly changed tack to discuss the Virgin management and the extraordinary behaviour of Mike Batt, who had left BA to work for Virgin and then returned to BA after two days.

> 'It won't make any difference if you blow Branson out'

Basham said: "He worked for one week and resigned. I took him out for dinner and asked what happened. He said: 'Well, actually, the business is appallingly run.' He said one day, without doubt, an aircraft is going to fall out of the sky — because aircraft always fall out of the sky, you know. Must happen. If an inquiry takes place, someone is going to swing because the procedures and the way the business is run are appalling."

On the tape, Basham and Hutchins were preparing to leave. The crackling increased as Hutchins stood up and smoothed down his clothes.

"I have a couple of concerns," Basham told him. "First of all, I don't want to be involved in this at all. Secondly, I mustn't have BA involved. I mean, all the good I might have done by saying 'Here is Virgin, good and bad' would be entirely wiped out if it looked as though BA was in any way running some sort of campaign against Virgin — which they're not. All right?"

"It's not going to get you in trouble with Lord King, is it, if we rubbish Branson?" Chris asked.

"No," Basham said. "If you blow Branson out, it doesn't make any difference to me as long as neither BA nor I are associated with it."

"Well, I'm afraid that both you and BA are going to be very associated with it," I said, wondering what to do with the tape. I felt as though I had just witnessed a crime and it was doubly strange knowing I was the victim. I asked the engineers to copy it and we immediately biked a copy round to our lawyer.

Things moved very quickly that week. The first call I received on Tuesday was from Syd Pennington at Virgin Atlantic, who had been reading the Virgin upper-class visitors' book.

"There's an entry here which reads 'You obviously have BA worried! I received a call from BA asking why I booked on a Virgin Atlantic flight today rather than BA. Good job! Good luck!' "

"Who wrote that?"

"Marcia Borne from Procter & Gamble, New York."

I could hardly wait to call Marcia Borne. She told me that she normally flew BA but that this time she had decided to come back with Virgin to try it out. BA had called to ask why she had changed her return flight to Virgin.

"The guy from BA said 'If you change your mind, let us know and we can change your ticket'. I started wondering how my itinerary was such public knowledge. I didn't know that there was a big computer in the sky which told everybody else where I was going to be."

I thanked her for her help.

British Airways was obviously gaining access to computer information that should have been off-bounds. It was confirmed by the next day's post: out of the blue Peter Fleming from BA wrote a second letter in which he detailed a number of things that the airline had done to squeeze Virgin out of the picture.

The list included deliberately applying for slots to Japan and Australia that BA didn't need for the sole purpose of stopping Virgin getting them; a special sales force getting business in the Gatwick area and offering low fares from Gatwick to squeeze yields for all airlines there (while continuing to operate a high-fare monopoly from Heathrow); refusing to process bookings for passengers who had flown from Japan to Gatwick by Virgin and then wanted to switch to BA, so that they would have to fly BA all the way; and accessing our booking information by delving into the computer reservations system.

While the journalists at *Today* were still wondering what to do with the Brian Basham tape recording, we received a call from *The Sunday Times*. Nick Rufford, who worked on the paper's Insight team, was planning an analysis of the Virgin empire and had set up a meeting with Brian Basham to hear BA's perspective on Virgin. Basham told him some of the things that he had told Chris Hutchins but also mentioned a rumour within BA that Virgin was having to pay for its fuel in cash because of a low credit rating.

This was not only rubbish, but it was exactly the sort of rumour that would cause most damage to Virgin and probably lead to Shell demanding cash for fuel, which represented more than 20 per cent of our costs. Without the cashflow credit that comes from passengers paying for their tickets up front, and Virgin paying for the fuel a month later, we'd have had to take out a further loan, which no bank would countenance.

"Why don't you turn the tables on British Airways," I suggested, "and write about their dirty tricks? That's the real story."

"I could try that," Rufford said. "What other evidence do you have?"

By the time I'd finished with Rufford I sensed that he might see it from our point of view. He promised to check the story with Shell and then call Basham. A few hours later he called me back.

"I checked with Shell and they told me that Virgin has normal credit terms, so I called up Basham and told him that I was turning the story on its head. We're now running a story about British Airways' campaign to smear Virgin, and mentioning him."

"Was he pleased?"

"He was on a car phone. I think he must have gone through a tunnel," Rufford said diplomatically.

At that moment I had a gut feeling that the tide was turning in our favour.

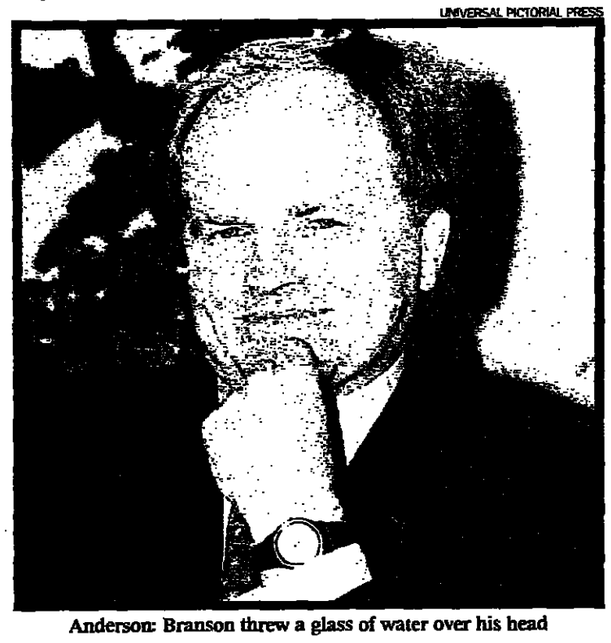
● *Edited extract from* Losing My Virginity: The Autobiography *by Richard Branson, to be published by Virgin Publishing on September 17 at £20. Times readers can buy it for £18 by calling* The Times Bookshop, *0990 134459. Copyright Richard Branson 1998*

TOMORROW



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Anderson: Branson threw a glass of water over his head

Flying tricycle and a brush with death

In 1977, I was approached by a man called Richard Ellis who claimed to have made a startling invention that he called a "pterodactyl flying machine". He sent me a photograph showing a man on a tricycle soaring over the treetops beneath two large wings. Ellis wanted me to try the machine and then buy the licence to distribute it.

It looked like a cross between a Leonardo da Vinci and a Heath Robinson invention. The tricycle had a small outboard engine with rotors suspended above the pilot's head. Ellis told me that, if I pedalled like mad along the road or an airstrip, the engine would cut in and power me along until I took off. The engine would then power the rotors, which would keep me airborne.

I was rather flattered that he had chosen me to be the second person to fly this machine. "It'll take a couple of weekends to get the hang of it," he said. "So you won't take off this time."

He joined the engine to some cable with a rubber switch at the end, which he gave to me to put in my mouth.

"When the engine is going well and you are bowling along the runway, bite on this and it will cut the engine."

Joan and a few friends stood at the end of the runway of the local airfield to get a good view. I was strapped into the harness and put the rubber band in my mouth. It seemed as if it would be a lot of fun.

"OK! Go!" Ellis shouted.

I started to pedal as fast as I could down the runway. The engine kicked into life and the bike began to whizz along. I couldn't hear anybody above the noise of the engine, but I could see their faces. I decided that I was going fast enough and that the experiment was over, so I bit hard into the bung. Nothing happened. The engine roared even faster. I bit again. Nothing. I was skimming along at more than 30 miles an hour — it felt incredibly fast — when suddenly the tricycle lurched into the air and the whole contraption took off. I bit again, but the engine just roared on. I looked down and saw the faces turned up to watch me. Only Joan seemed rather uninterested. I rose up in great lolloping movements, like the men who take off from Brighton Pier. In a few seconds I had cleared the beech trees in the wood next to the airfield. I had no idea what to do. I was 100ft in the air and nobody had told me how to fly the thing.

With my free hand I reached up into the engine and started to pull at any wires I could feel. The engine was boiling hot and I burnt my hand, but one after the other I yanked out wires and pulled away anything that would come. I had to stop the engine. I was well past the trees and over the next field when the engine finally cut out. I tried to balance the bike, but the wings above me were very heavy. I spun down and headed towards the ground. At the last moment I caught some kind of wind, which flipped the machine over the other way and it crashed down sideways. I lay on the ground paralysed with shock.

"We thought that you got the hang of it rather well." I heard Joan say.

"I wasn't meant to take off. That was terrifying."

As I had soared above her head, frantically wrestling with the engine and narrowly escaping death, Joan had only been marginally impressed that I had got the hang of it. The next week Richard Ellis took off in the same machine and crashed back down to the ground. He died on impact.

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TIM77

Should I stay or should I go?

An affair may not mean the end of a marriage, although being honest might, says a leading psychiatrist, who has written a book on the subject. Interview by Tina Gaudoin



THE KOBAL COLLECTION

"The divorce rate is almost as much as a culture can bear. We have reached a stage wherein leaving a marriage is considered, in many cases, preferable to staying," Kramer says

For a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Peter Kramer certainly has a swanky office. Set on the Rhode Island campus of Brown University where Kramer teaches and practises, the clapboard grey house would look more at home perched on the celebrity-littered beaches of Martha's Vineyard than in a grimy university township. But then Kramer is something of a celebrity in the United States.

The first author to embrace and legitimise the culture of Prozac (his book, *Listening to Prozac*, sat heroically on *The New York Times* bestseller list throughout the summer of 1993), he undoubtedly tapped the vein of a nation eager for psychological help. "I think in a sense I was the voice of the *Zeitgeist*," he says with a satisfied grin. The question for Kramer now is whether his new book, *Should You Leave?*, an analytical insight into what makes relationships work, can do the same.



Kramer: family under threat

With a rocketing divorce rate on both sides of the Atlantic, the need for a book that discusses the plausibility of giving effective advice to troubled couples has never been greater. But those snatching up the book in feverish anticipation of gathering definitive answers to their problems will be disappointed. Kramer, whose waiting room is littered with Freudian tomes, has, by his own admission, set out to write a literary antidote to the *Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus* school of self-help books.

The boyish late thirtysomething son of German-Jewish immigrants takes himself and his work exceptionally seriously. He also possesses an extraordinary degree of self-confidence, having already asked me over the telephone: "What is the most interesting thing you're going to do here aside from interviewing me?" Perhaps this is what good therapy and a bestseller does for you. He tells me that his first book, *Moments of Engagement*, "which got only rave reviews", sold a disappointing number of copies, and goes on to concede that *Should You Leave?*, which has garnered mainly good reviews so far, has been received less hysterically than *Listening to Prozac*.

The reason for this could be that *Should You Leave?* is not likely to provide any answers. Instead, what it offers is an entertaining, somewhat ambiguous, fictional account of varying troubled relationships and ways to "think around them" — as propounded by various eminent thinkers and therapists over the past 50 years.

Kramer is equally reticent about definitively answering that particular question. "There are of course certain cases when you must leave." Among them, he numbers physical and emotional abuse and the curious label of possession — "when one personality is swallowed up by another". But, in general, he believes in staying "because it's too easy emotionally for people to leave. Life is complicated and the book is designed to illustrate that life and relationships are complex: I want the reader to be moved to using their own skills to figure out the problem, rather than offering specific solutions or outcomes," he says, enthusiastically.

Cynics might call this approach "waffley shrink-speak". Kramer's own interview technique, which involves "taking a moment" before answering and running his hand through his dark wedge cut as he speaks, is in danger of bearing that out. His language is that of one firmly immersed in theologisation and his conversation is peppered with highbrow references — "I think it was Kierkergaard who said" — tempered by a self-deprecating sense of humour.

He is not forthcoming with his own personal details, regarding me suspiciously when I ask whether he and his wife ("married once with three children") have been in counselling. "We didn't do joint counselling and I didn't feel the need to experience Prozac to write my other book either," he says, somewhat sniffily.

I put it to Kramer that the title of his new book is a good commercial bet, given that at one time or another almost every man or woman in the Western world in a long-term relationship will have considered leaving. He dissembles: "I like to pick topics that are compelling — we live in a culture that doesn't reward attachment." The future of the family worries Kramer. "The divorce rate is almost as much as a culture can bear. If the family is going to remain a primary institution then we are going to have to consider the way we celebrate individualism and autonomy." The self-help culture spawned by the "gotta have it" Eighties and the "quick-fix" Nineties is to blame, he says. "We have celebrated the self to such an extent that we now live in a society which is tough on people who value attachment in any form." We have reached the stage wherein leaving a marriage is considered, in many cases, preferable to staying, he believes.

Kramer opines that a therapist's job is to "be honest, but that honesty involves selecting what part of the truth the patient wants to hear". For some of us, the idea that we are not paying to hear objective advice but the advice a therapist thinks we can bear, will come as a shock. He also states that he doesn't endorse honesty at all times between couples. "What passes for honesty is often aggression. When someone comes into my room and says 'I'm glad to be able to say what's on my mind', I think 'look out, this is a good place to take a swat at your partner'."

Neither does he damn affairs, pointing out that the outcome of an affair is not generally to end a marriage. He does, however, take a dim view of anyone with a less than mature view of therapy: when I ask if he ever encounters patients he would class as "relationship no-hopers", he winces and places both hands firmly on his knees as if to prevent a violent response. "This is a serious business," he says, looking reverentially around his office, "and this place has a sacred quality, important things happen here."

Ironically, it is the echoes of *Listening To Prozac* within *Should You Leave?* that have attracted most attention in America. Kramer's contention, that the treatment of minor depression can radically improve personality and ability, relates directly to his views on relationships because he believes that minor depression often causes marital break-ups, rather than marital break-ups causing depression.

"I think it received so much attention because it showed that it is possible to fix a marriage if minor depression is causing someone to want to leave a formerly satisfying relationship. These days, with psychotherapy and medication, we have tools that can mend things that are not mental illness."

So there is hope for marriage in the next millennium? Kramer says couples who are emotionally or morally committed to a marriage are in the minority. "I think today people do have wandering eyes; many of us now think we are entitled to something better." With so many public figures unable to sustain their relationships is there any hope for improvement in the divorce rate? For Kramer, a very public divorce is at best "a great leveller. Celebrities have emotional problems, just the same as you or I."

Describing himself as "left of liberal", he is unable to contain his distaste for President Clinton. "He is a weak character — the nation made a mistake." But did Hillary make one, too, and, more to the point, should she stay or go?

"My best guess is that Hillary is involved in a marriage of state — being a celebrity is all-powerful. What is she going to do? Go back to Arkansas and be a corporate lawyer? I don't think so."

In terms of high-profile marital disasters, Kramer equates the Clintons and the Waleses. "This is the perfect example of how much you can know about two couples and how little you can know about their relationships," he says. The difference is that had the late Princess visited him for advice he hopes that he would have had the wisdom to say: "You really ought to bring your husband in with you next time."

Should You Leave? *will be published by Gollancz on Thursday at £16.99*

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March of the superlice

Ask people to recall their schooldays and many will remember the stodgy dinners, the prim gym teacher and the playground bully. If they are honest, they will also remember the burning shame of the nit parade: the belief that head lice prefer clean heads counted for nothing when it came to playground taunts.

Head lice continue to torment people today and, as a documentary will claim tonight, experts are no closer to conquering the scourge. The lice appear to be at least partially resistant to the chemical remedies in widespread use. Desperate parents repeatedly treat their children with the shampoos, which contain high levels of insecticides. In frustration, parents then try other products, unaware that the new treatment sometimes contains the same active ingredient as the old, ineffective one. The result, say critics, is a lucrative market in useless products and an upsurge in the head lice population.

"My concern is that none of the treatments is completely effective," says Dr Nigel Hill, medical entomologist at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. "But the labels often claim the product to be 100 per cent successful. Manufacturers are often scathing of such accusations and blame parents for not using the products properly. But they know lice have some resistance. The problem is that it takes a couple of years for lice to become resistant to a treatment, and another 20 years before the manufacturers develop a new one." Another entomologist agrees that manufacturers of head lice remedies must shoulder some blame, but so too must parents. "The first thing to say is that shampoos never work," says Dr John Maunder, director of the Medical Entomology Centre in Cambridge, which sometimes provides scientific advice to companies that manufacture headlice remedies as well as to health authorities. "They do not sit on the head for long enough. There are lotions which one can apply for several hours, which are effective in some cases. In others, the insects have become resistant to the active ingredient. But the effectiveness of any remedy depends on its concentration and the length of time it is on the scalp. People must get the dose right so they can get rid of the lice once and for all."

Dr Maunder believes doctors and nurses are not trained how to deal with head lice, and so cannot pass accurate information on to parents. "There are so many myths surrounding this topic," he says with a sigh. "Children are just as likely to get head lice from their granny as off their classmates."

Dr Hill suggests that old-fashioned "bug-busting" with a metal comb might be the best strategy. Four well-timed combing sessions could, he says, do the trick.

But Dr Maunder rejects this approach: "It's going back to the Middle Ages. It would take four weeks of lengthy combing every day to work."

ANJANA AHUJA

- *Facts of Lice, Carlton, tonight, 7.30pm.*
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VISUAL ART

Domestic bliss with a Dutch master

PAGE 20

THE TIMES ARTS

THEATRE

Friel's Dancing at Lughnasa in the West End

PAGE 21



Something Freudian in the forest

OPERA

Rusalka
Coliseum

London's opera houses may be far from out of the woods, but English National Opera is now in a stronger position than it has been for years. Saturday's opening of the season marked the official start of the new Nicholas Payne-Paul Daniel regime, a formidable artistic and administrative team as their track record at Opera North shows.

Their first new production, *Otello*, will be unveiled on Friday. But the season also sees the revival of several classics from ENO's "Power House" years, and productions don't come much more "classic" than this 1983 reinterpretation of Dvorák's *Rusalka*, one of the great operas in one of the great stagings.

David Pountney's stunning stagecraft, revived here by Lynn Binstock, may carry the audience far away from the forest-and-lake fairytale world the composer envisaged. But it goes straight to the psychological drama at the heart of the work. Dvorák was probably unaware that as he was writing his operatic masterpiece in 1900, Freud was publishing his *Interpretation of Dreams*, yet this take on the tragic story of a water-nymph's awakening makes the connection.

Though Stefanos Lazaridis's designs may have lost some of their freshness, his set remains a powerful metaphor for the whole piece. The giant doll's-house representation of a Victorian nursery, filled with mechanical toys that come to disturbing life and the Perspex walls that separate the mute Rusalka from "reality", is both beautiful and impressive for the telling precision of its imagery. The nightmarish aspect of the tale is caught brilliantly in the surreal ballet of Act II (choreography revived here by Nicola Bowie).

The American soprano Susan Patterson makes a powerful Rusalka. Her voice is bright and secure, with a slight edge that is appropriate in this music and which never turns hard, even in the most demanding passages. Her wide-eyed, vulnerable heroine shows that she is an affecting actress too.

Catherine Savory is strong as the witch Jezibaba, all the more frightening for her unexaggerated aloofness. Robert Brubaker's Prince displays dark tenor tone but tends to force. John Connell is an appropriately forlorn Water Spirit, and Janice Cairns returns to the Coliseum as the ambivalent Foreign Princess.

There are also lively contributions from Dominic Natoli (Gamekeeper) and Nerys Jones (Kitchen Boy). Denise Mulholland, Mary Nelson and Emer McGilloway make excellent ENO debuts as the trio of Rhinemaiden-like Wood Nymphs.

Alas, it is the Wagnerian undertones that the conductor, Richard Hickox, stresses. His steamrollering approach takes little account of the Slavonic element or the music's magical textures, and he doesn't "breathe" with the singers. But lapses in ensemble can be sorted out, and this 15-year-old staging will not keep coming back. Catch it now.

JOHN ALLISON

DOUGLAS H. JEFFERY



Dream team at ENO: Susan Patterson swinging into the role of Rusalka, with John Connell as the Water Spirit, in David Pountney's classic staging

Oops, wrong century

Orlando
Queen Elizabeth Hall

THERE has been no shortage of Handel performances recently, and the annual early music festival at the South Bank, this year titled *Heavenly Harmony*, followed the trend, kicking off with a semi-staged production of *Orlando* by the Early Opera Company. With singers at early stages of their careers, and a small company of instrumentalists, the group is aptly named, but failed to match up to its claims to "work that is historically informed and theatrically challenging".

The mini band (smaller than Handel would have had at his disposal) played stylishly enough, and the shoestring production on the stage of the Queen Elizabeth Hall presented a theatrical challenge of a kind. Triumphs have been known to come out of such unpromising circumstances; unfortunately this was not one of them.

Critics have a tendency on such occasions to write "very-good-considering" reviews, and there is no doubt that we heard singers of potential and a decent, if less-than-exhilarating, performance. However, at least one criticism must be made if the EOC is to live up to its aims, and that concerns the singing. The present-day lack of castrati makes things difficult, and Louise Mott in the title role struggled manfully with the low tessitura. But that is not the point I wish to make here, which is that there was simply no stylistic consistency among the soloists and few, if any, signs of stylistic awareness, with the possible exception of Matthew Hargreaves as the magician, Zoroastro. It seems perverse to go to the trouble of securing a period instrument band, only to have the singers adopt an approach more suited to Puccini. True, we still know relatively little about the singing style of Handel's day but the all-pervasive vibrato, seamless phrasing and general lack of any attempt at idiomatic ornamentation suggested that these singers had not been sufficiently prepared.

Geraldine McGreevy (Angelica) has a creamy voice and a polished technique, but she never once phrased in a baroque manner and it was difficult to make out a word of her Italian. The same was true of Sally Bruce-Payne's Medoro, despite another fine, if darker-hued, tone, while Anna-Clare Monk (Dorinda) was chirpily or sweetly expressive as required. Christian Curnyn directed from the harpsichord, but did little to inject any real vitality or pace into the proceedings, setting tempos that were often on the slow side.

Those who like to wallow in their Handel will have enjoyed this much more than I did.

TESS KNIGHTON

Breathtaking Tchaikovsky

PROMS

Without, I'm sure, any prior consultation, America and Europe joined in celebrating Richard Strauss and Alban Berg at the start of the weekend's Proms. Both the **Chicago Symphony Orchestra** and the **European Union Youth Orchestra** chose early Berg; and as one had begun, so the other ended its programme with Strauss.

The Chicago Symphony and Daniel Barenboim sprang into their second Prom with their huge forces tripping a remarkably light fantastic in Strauss's *Till Eugenspiegel*, as laconic and faux-naif by turns as the legendary joker himself.

And then, as the smiles faded but the tension remained, Berg's *Three Pieces for Orchestra*, written in 1914, took up their sour-sweet Prelude, Round Dance and March.

Here Barenboim recreated Berg's musical emblem of a world poised on the edge of chaos and controlled by a fierce yet fragile order. With the Chicago Symphony's horns as sentient as its violas, and with percussion and strings equally skilled in the merging and focusing of detail, this performance distilled the menace and pathos at the very heart of Berg's music.

But the evening's outstanding achievement was Barenboim's vision of Tchaikovsky's *Sixth Symphony*. Not a phrase was left unturned, not a bar of orchestration taken for granted. From the opening, in which the first four phrases became a succession of breaths in one long, harmonically directed sigh, through to the last numb shudder, this was a performance rich in new revelations of the music's sense and the composer's sensibility. And, as the grand finale of the orchestra's London visit, it drew playing the like of which has scarcely been matched in this entire Proms season.

It was certainly a hard act for the EUYO and Vladimir Ashkenazy to follow. But they had the Swedish soprano Hillevi Martinpelto in tow for Berg's *Seven Early Songs*, and *Strauss's blockbuster to offer* in the *Alpine Symphony*. Schoenberg was already advising his pupil Berg in the orchestral pieces, but it was these early songs which convinced Schoenberg he was worth taking on. And if Martinpelto paid tribute to *Wolf in her sensitivity to the inflection* and harmonic underlay of the words, then the EUYO led the ear from Brahms through Strauss and on to the first, pungent accents of Berg's own voice.

Their *Alpine Symphony* showed a keen eye for detail. With Ashkenazy in charge, it was the step by step progress of the journey rather than the panoramas which dominated. But, with the skill of individual players very much to the fore, and the acoustic landscape of the Albert Hall to direct the forest horncalls and the bovine migrations, the audience seemed well pleased.

HILARY FINCH

Daintily, demurely decadent

CONCERTS

Hespèrion XX
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Bloody brawls, libidinous excess and mayhem. It could be the Brits in Ibiza today; in fact, it's the royal court in late 17th-century Madrid. One of the key characters, celebrated in the first of the Saturday evening concerts in Philip Pickett's *Heavenly Harmony* series, was the virtuoso singer, guitarist and composer José Marin.

Defrocked priest, multiple murderer and victim of torture, Marin had a colourful career. But that is not to say that his music is boisterous; on the contrary, as Hespèrion XX showed in their selection of his songs and dances, the music's caprice and eroticism, ardour and irony find expression in the subtlest of gestures.

Montserrat Figueras, one of the founder members of Hespèrion XX in 1974, is Catalan by birth, and has this music in her blood. The required idiom is not one of clean, clear-cut vocal lines, but of folk-like elisions, bent notes and above all naturally inflected and strongly projected words. In the love songs, Figueras sighed and moaned like the turtledove of which she sang, but with the most refined of nuances; Arianna Savall's exquisite harp playing here formed an ideal accompaniment.

Rolf Lislevand and Jordi Savall on guitar and gamba respectively also balanced virtuosity and restraint. Pedro Estevan and Adela Gonzalez-Campa added rhythmic tension with a variety of percussive effects: drums, bells, castanets, tambourines and clapping.

In instrumental dances by Gaspar Sanz and others, there was further evidence of the players' intuitive rapport, while Jordi Savall asserted his mastery in a set of variations on the traditional folia.

Later in the evening, Pickett's own **New London Consort** presented nine "songs of ecstasy" from the *Miracles de Notre-Dame* by the 12th-century monk Gautier de Coincy. Shrewdly promoting the sequence as an angel concert, Pickett devised a semi-staged realisation supposedly drawing on visionary accounts and iconographical evidence of such happenings.

The "staging" consisted of little more than nine singers in white cassocks processing round the auditorium and on to the platform, where they were accompanied by an array of suitable instruments, including the harp (Frances Kelly), gittern (Tom Finucane), fiddles and clavicimbalum, with Pickett on symphony and recorder. The singers sang beautifully in ensemble (some less so when exposed as soloists); the instrumentalists played like angels.

BARRY MILLINGTON

For the children of our time

THEY arrived three-legged, putting on lipstick, waving cellos over the arena crowd. One swapped his french horn for a baby and strode off the stage with it. The leader, true to form, interrupted the conductor to shake hands. Seconds before the final bars, two percussionists in anoraks crashed on to the stage. It was one way of making the longest work in Sunday's **Blue Peter 40th Birthday Prom** — *Bolero* — pass quickly. And it brought the house down.

A full house of parents and children gave television presenter Katy Hill, conductor Yan Pascal Tortelier and the BBC Philharmonic a warm welcome. With an audience such as this, ready to riot at the slightest pall, there is a temptation to rush, and the *Fanfare for the Common Man* tore past, as did a far-from-feline *Pink Panther*.

But that was to underestimate these listeners. A cheekily restrained *Pizzicato Polka* drew keen concentration, and five-year-old Casimir near me jigged spontaneously to the second movement of Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra.

Prokofiev worked his usual magic in a rip-roaring *Death of Tybalt*: by now the children had discovered the art of the foot-stamping roar. But Casimir will possibly remember Alaisdair Malloy's wildly non-PC Chinese percussionist — who hammered a xylophone until it went up in smoke — for longer.

If the afternoon was for a happy band of children of our time, then the evening cut a more sombre note. Tippett's wartime oratorio, *A Child of Our Time*, is performed all-too rarely: with its feet in Bach's Passions and Handel's *Messiah*, its head in 20th-century blues and its heart open, it seems to belong to us all.

Though **Sir Colin Davis** maintained a compelling grip, this reading with the **London Symphony Chorus and Orchestra** had room to breathe. What Davis brings out is the dancing transparency of the counterpoint, and the warm, quick-fire responsiveness of the chorus.

The LSO strings recreated the ethereal opening with their special radiance. The crunch of trumpets announced an assertive brass section: heavy trombones occasionally covered the wayward tenor Jerry Hadley. John Tomlinson's delivery had a speaking edge: less urgent were the words of soprano Deborah Riedel and the French alto Nora Gubisch.

HELEN WALLACE

Great leap of faith

Czech PO/Mackerras
Usher Hall, Edinburgh

ONE advantage of programming by accretion rather than by selection — which is generally more attractive to the industrious compiler than the overwhelmed consumer — is that it does help to put things in perspective. So even the overload of Smetana that so limited choice in the third week of the Edinburgh Festival was useful in getting things sorted out.

As an orchestral score, rather than as a revered monument, Smetana's six-part epic, *Má Vlast*, certainly has its weaknesses. On the other hand, after hearing the same composer's much earlier *Festive Overture* and even his *Wallenstein's Camp* in the first of Sir Charles Mackerras's two concerts with the Czech Philharmonic, it was very clear how superior *Má Vlast* is as an expression of Czech nationalism. One might wish that the composer had stopped with the fourth piece in the set — or at least that, having discovered counterpoint in such a big way in *Bohemia's Woods and Fields*, he had not so comprehensively abandoned it for the gruff, unadorned and scarcely tolerable repetitions of *Tabor*. And yet, at the end of *Blanik*, which so discouragingly begins with the same grimly indomitable rhythmic figure, the last-night audience couldn't stay long enough in the Usher Hall to register its enthusiasm.

In fact, Mackerras's fervent interpretation of *Má Vlast* had outshone even his brilliant account of Mahler's First Symphony (alongside the two other Smetana works) in the same hall the day before. Including the original second movement, *Blumine*, that Mahler conducted three times before definitively excluding it from the published score, Mackerras made it more of a symphonic poem and less of a symphony. On the other hand, the work was conducted not only with characteristic clarity and rhythmic precision, but also with a well-calculated structural strategy.

Some of Mahler's First Symphony, like the village band imitations, was so vividly characterised by the Czech Philharmonic that, quite legitimately, it could almost have been another celebration of the Czech idiom. But where Mackerras and his orchestra excelled was in sustaining faith, against formidable odds at times, in *Má Vlast*. The point about the dubious *Tabor* and *Blanik* is that one is not complete without the other, that the two together make a finale that transcends the six-part construction. Presented with as much sensitivity to its lyrical inspiration as conviction in its affirmations, *Má Vlast* is as effective in ending a festival in Edinburgh as opening one in Prague.

GERALD LARNER



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A gift for making drudgery divine

GALLERIES: Richard Cork marvels at Pieter de Hooch's domestic masterpieces, on show in Dulwich

Pieter de Hooch's lonely death, in an Amsterdam asylum for the insane, contrasts bleakly with the domestic contentment warming his finest work. No record survives to explain why he suffered such a woeful decline. But the paintings of his early maturity, assembled now in a superb show at Dulwich Picture Gallery, testify to a love of family life at its most untroubled. The father of seven children, he made his finest images hinge on the unaffected rapport between mothers and offspring.

Vermeer, his great contemporary in mid-17th century Delft, had at least 11 children but never admitted them to the images he painted. He is a cooler artist than de Hooch, who defined familial love with such directness that sentimentality is avoided.

No trace of this central concern can be detected in his youthful pictures, where carousing figures in taverns conform to a well-worn tradition in Dutch art. By the time he painted *Mother and Child with a Serving Woman Sweeping*, though, de Hooch had discovered his most rewarding subject. The handling may be fuzzy, the perspective uncertain. But the straightforward affection of the mother cradling the infant is already heartfelt, and might well owe something to the artist's own experience of fatherhood.

De Hooch arrived at his mature style with surprising speed. In the late 1650s, when he was not yet 30, the merry-making topers gave way to an emphasis on still, simple and sober scenes. Children pause, arrested by the sight of women washing laundry in a tub or laying out linen. Church towers surge over rooftops, adding to the air of rectitude.

But de Hooch avoids trite sermonising. He concentrates instead on defining a sense of place, and bathing it in a luminosity that transforms everything in sight.

The son of a bricklayer, he savours the light's ability to dance across a decayed wall and make even the cement sparkle. He is equally fascinated by deep spatial recession. In a stiff, cheerless family group, posing in a Delft courtyard for a dutiful dynastic portrait, de Hooch introduces unexpected mystery by leading our eyes through a doorway to a second space. Here, a fashionably dressed man stands with his back to the main group, anonymous and unexplained. Oddly transfixed, he gazes at a red door in the distance, opening on to a glimpse of the town beyond.

> 'He loved to portray a rapport between woman and child'

De Hooch's finest paintings are all punctuated by similar moments, when everyday activity is suspended and a meditative mood asserts itself. A soldier with a pretentious plumed hat seems, at first, to be carousing with companions. But with one hand suspended in the air he directs an awed gaze towards the glass of wine held up delicately by the woman beside him. It glitters in the light from the casement window, and de Hooch ensures that vessel, liquid and reflected brightness are all depicted with exemplary subtlety.

Everyone at the table seems mesmerised by the sight of this container, and the servant carrying a brazier of coals by the fireplace is also notable for her stillness. Pentimenti disclose that an old man with a white beard once stood beside her, but de Hooch decided in the end to stress the woman's meditative stance by isolating her. The decision to place a painting of *The Education of the Virgin* above her head may indicate that he also aimed at emphasising the virtue inherent in performing ordinary household tasks.

Sometimes, de Hooch allows quiet humour to enliven his domestic scenes. In 1658, an *annus mirabilis*, he painted a captivating panel where a mother smiles at the infant on her lap and gestures towards a small child. Clasping a limp and contented dog as if in imitation of her mother, the child grins back.

A stick and ball lie on the floor, momentarily forgotten. All the figures are caught up in the pleasures of nurturing, and the child is clearly preparing herself in a game-playing way for her maternal role to come. Serving women also enjoy an intimate accord with the children in their temporary charge. A maid offers a jug of beer to a fair-haired child dressed in an elaborate bonnet and dress. Despite the feminine attire, the child is a boy. And however dubious we may feel about his access to alcohol, the Dutch regarded beer as a healthy beverage even for babies.

In the end, though, there was no substitute for maternal milk. The one painting where de Hooch displays his powers with outstanding finality takes, as its governing theme, the act of suckling. While a blithe child feeds a dog with a bowl, the mother sits beside her and proffers a swollen breast to the infant. Everything conspires to surround the baby with sustenance. Fingers interlocked, the mother's hands grasp her offspring in a protective embrace. Further support is provided by her right knee, raised up. But the mother shows no sign of strain: she gazes down at the baby with rapt satisfaction.

Above all, the flow of sun enhances the mood of private happiness. It suffuses the entire room with a reassuring glow. The mother's burnished red skirt seems to give off heat, and its radiance is echoed by her cheeks. This intense luminosity transforms an everyday scene into a supreme manifestation of nurturing joy.

Another painting, *The Bedroom*, suggests that children and light became increasingly enmeshed in de Hooch's imagination. In one corner, a woman handles blankets near a bed. She inhabits the darkest part of the room, but looks up from her labours to discover that a child has just opened the door and come in. Light leaps across the small figure, and spills over the floor-tiles like particles of glinting snow.

It reaches maximum intensity in the child's hair, bursting like flames through the unruly tendrils. Acting as a secular halo, it heightens the rapturous smile directed by the child at the woman. She responds, forgetting the business of bedmaking in order to marvel instead at the intruder. De Hooch invests this incident with so much conviction that it becomes as momentous as an Annunciation.

Without indulging in false piety, his most impressive paintings discover benediction even in the least elevated of daily routines. The same bedroom becomes, in another canvas, the setting for a seated woman whose child kneels on the floor and rests its head in her lap. The precise action of the mother's fingers indicates that she is plucking lice from her offspring's hair. But this unpleasant hygienic ritual is transformed into a display of maternal devotion.

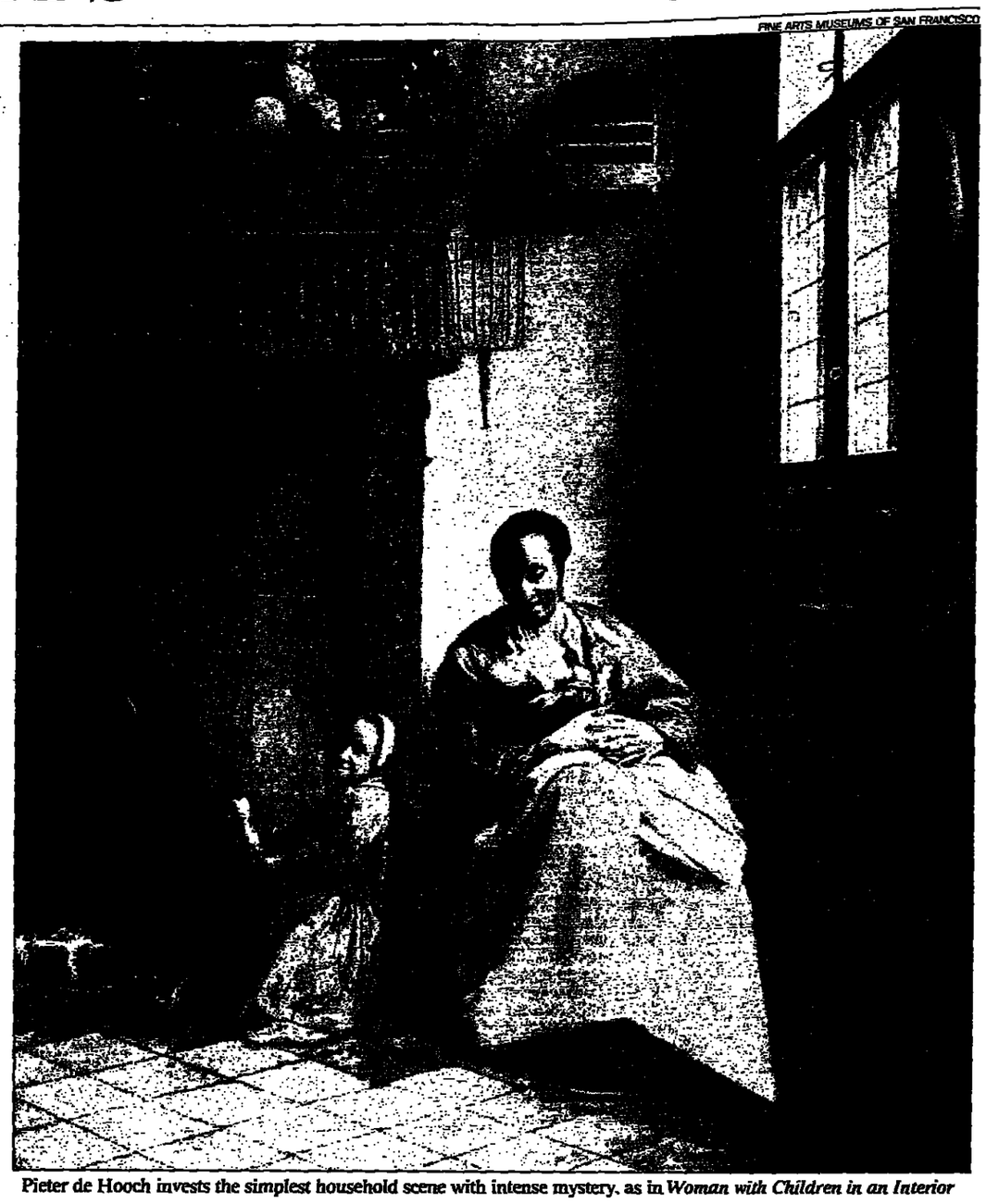
The woman bends her head forward, lost in solemn concentration. And the kneeling child looks equally intent, as if absorbed in prayer. Nothing disturbs their mutual concentration, for the rest of the room is occupied only by a pet animal.

After moving to Amsterdam around 1661, de Hooch went into decline. His interiors grow more ornate, the sitters grander, the canvases often larger. But the all-important sense of wonder becomes hard to find. The spontaneous warmth binding mother to child in the Delft pictures has vanished, to be replaced by a frigid display of wealth.

Did de Hooch ever grasp the full extent of his loss? If he did it may well have contributed to the mental deterioration he eventually suffered. The last painting on show, executed seven years before his death in 1684, devotes most of its space to a sumptuously dressed couple relishing each other's company with the help of oysters, wine and a black musician. Dusk is descending on their courtyard, but de Hooch contrasts its dimness with the canal-side houses still brilliantly lit beyond the archway.

Silhouetted against the final flare of sunset, a young man stares out from the darkness as if spellbound by the distant brightness. He might almost embody de Hooch's own longing for his old feeling of awe, sharpened now by the melancholy realisation that it was beyond recovery.

● Pieter de Hooch *is at the Dulwich Picture Gallery (0181-693 5254) until Nov 15*



FINE ARTS MUSEUMS OF SAN FRANCISCO

Pieter de Hooch invests the simplest household scene with intense mystery, as in *Woman with Children in an Interior*

AROUND THE GALLERIES: LONDON AND LIVERPOOL

WHEN it comes to visual arts, nobody really knows what on earth has been happening in the United States of late; and the catalogue introduction to **Young Americans 2** at the Saatchi Gallery admits as much. "A decade long St Vitus dance" is the description it settles for. The energy of this show attests as much. Charles Saatchi is not defining any movement, as he has done in Britain with his New Neurotic Realists, but rather reflecting the variety and vitality of an omnivorous American vision.

This show ranges from the microscopic precision of Tom Friedman's housefly, sculpted from fuzz, Playdo and plastic, to Jessica Stockholder's skip-content sculptures — bold, bright and slapdash. In between are raffish little oil portraits romancing modern pop stars, huge gridlocked abstractions by Terry Winters and an installation by Brian Tolle. His styrofoam fireplace with its fake wooden beams may hark affectionately back to a cosier age, but it doesn't sit ill with the more progressive pieces in a show as heterogeneous as the art scene it attempts to represent.

Saatchi Gallery, Boundary Rd, London NW8 (0171-624 8299) until Nov 22



Self-obsession raised to an art form: Gavin Turk's *Oi!*

☐ ARTISTS often tend towards introspection. But **Gavin Turk** is self-obsessed. His graduation from the Royal College of Art was marked by the exhibition of a blue English Heritage-style house plaque with his own name on it: his *Sensation* show contribution was a waxwork effigy of himself as Sid Vicious.

In *The Stuff Show* you can follow his ongoing attempts to turn his own persona into a contemporary icon with effigies of Turk in the tub, Turk as a tramp or Turk as a pistol-packer. Portraits of the artist in various masks do nothing to cover up the self-obsession. But the monomania becomes mesmerising.

South London Gallery, 65 Peckham Rd, London SE5 (0171-703 6120) from Thursday to Oct 18

☐ THREE hundred years ago, not even the waters buckeled up from the adjacent Thames could put out the fire which raged through the Palace of Whitehall, destroying all but a part of it. But now, through architectural drawings by Inigo Jones, John Webb and Christopher Wren, through topographical studies by contemporary observers and recovered archaeological objects as well as a model reconstruction, the original appearance and 168-year history of the palace, as it developed from the London seat of Cardinal Wolsey to that of the principal residence of Tudor and Stuart monarchs, is retraced.

The exhibition, **The Lost Palace of Whitehall**, offers an unexpected peep behind the curtains of royal history. It includes a glimpse of the huge canvas *An Allegory of the Restoration* which once adorned Charles II's bedchamber.

RIBA Heinz Gallery, 21 Portman Sq W1 (0171-307 3628) from tomorrow to Oct 24

☐ AS THE peace process lurches forward in Northern Ireland, a show by **Willie Doherty** reflects the contradictions which any observer must sense. Spanning a confused decade, the photographic and audiovisual works of *Somewhere Else* confront the dichotomies of conflict by setting idyllic images of an Emerald Isle against the violence of a nation torn in two. Desolate dereliction meets a tourist's idyll.

But Doherty's greatest art is to use his medium to explain the ways in which news reporters and documentary-makers distort or manipulate our ideas. His imaginative echoes of common media devices set the viewer at an often very uncomfortable angle to the politics of Northern Ireland.

Tate Gallery, Liverpool (0151-709 3223) until Oct 4

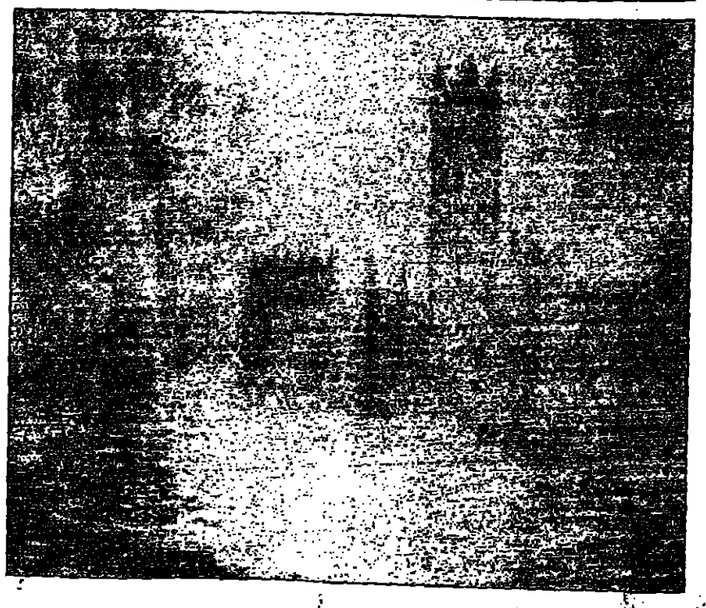
RACHEL CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON

MONET IN THE 20TH CENTURY: PAINTING OF THE DAY

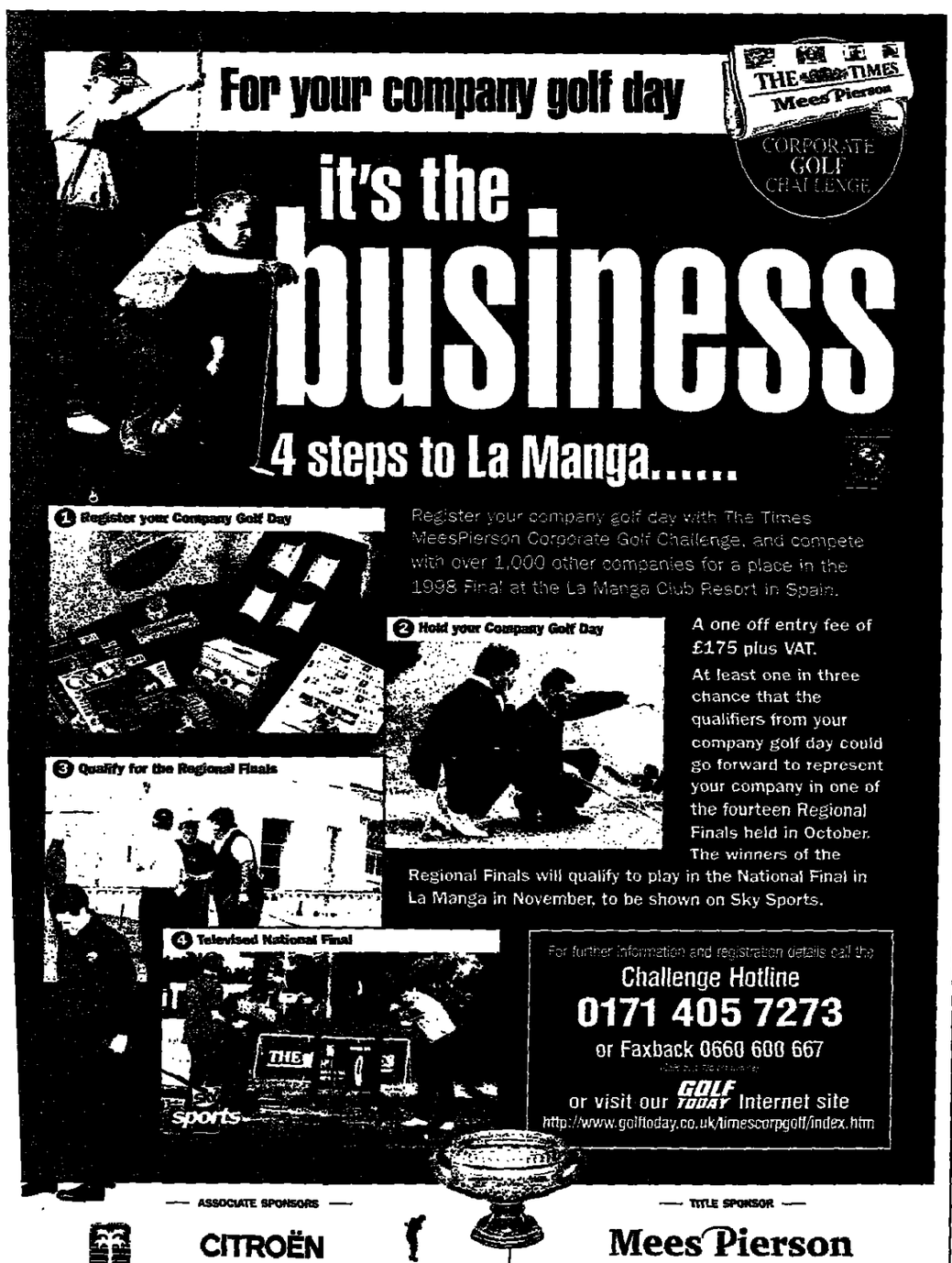
Each day this week Richard Cork selects outstanding paintings from the forthcoming Royal Academy exhibition

TODAY: Houses of Parliament, Sunset, 1904

Monet found London so engrossing that he made three trips there, concentrating increasingly on the Thames between Westminster and Waterloo Bridge. His earliest painting of the Houses of Parliament, a small 1871 canvas now in the National Gallery, had been a delicate affair. But in this outstanding picture executed 33 years later he is far more audacious. The waning sun, half-shrouded in a crepuscular mist, turns buildings into spectral silhouettes. But it still bursts like a bomb on the water, allowing Monet to show how uninhibited he had become with his broken brushwork and incandescent colour.



● **Times readers have exclusive priority booking access to 50,000 tickets for the Royal Academy's *Monet in the 20th Century* exhibition (Jan 23 to April 19, 1999), sponsored by Ernst & Young. Telephone Firstcall (0870 842 2200, booking fee £1.80 per ticket on first five tickets, £1.40 per ticket thereafter) by Sept 30**



صكذا من الأهل

COMEDY
Jasper Carrott on tour

ARTS

LISTINGS
Flamenco in London

Encore without cheers

Brian Friel's obsession with memory and subjective truth has coloured everything he's written since *Philadelphia, Here I Come* in 1964. Friel paints melancholy pictures of his past, none more elegiac — or seemingly innocuous — than *this* modern classic, where five spinsterish sisters muddle through a harvest festival in 1936.

Narrated by their grown-up nephew, Michael, the play

THEATRE
Dancing at Lughnasa
Arts, WC2

squints through rose-tinted binoculars at this impoverished Donegal family glued together by pots of tea and mounds of frustration. A dodgy Marconi wireless pipes in dance music from a world *that they can only dream* about. While the seven-year-old Michael makes kites in the garden, his mother, Chris, *and feisty aunts tackle the* creeping fear of middle age by needling each other about phantom boyfriends, the price of tapioca and the uselessness of Michael's absent father, Gerry.

Edward Wilson's new production for the National Youth Theatre cleverly differentiates the squabbling sisters. But the atmosphere has the sickly familiarity of a themed pub. What little drama there is is swamped in gossip and hearty *performances*.

Michelle Brown's Rose is a nicely unpredictable clown in wellies. Bea Holland's Maggie is the chain-smoking laddish one. Tammy Mendelson's glove-maker Agnes is the peacebroker. Caoimhe Harvey's Chris slips in and out of depression and Rachael Stirling's repressed, religious Kate is preposterously righteous.

The mood is one of monotony with twinges of comedy and melancholia. Mad uncle Jack, *a priest whose head has* been turned by years in Uganda, drifts absent-mindedly through the kitchen, shocking Kate with his love of pagan tribal practices. Michael's hopeless Welsh father, Gerry (Joe Armstrong), dances by like Fred Astaire with his annual empty promise that one day he will come back for Chris. This is as dangerous as it gets. The only unspoken tease is whether Michael's memory is as faulty as the wireless set.

Despite Christopher Logan's neatly detached performance as the ambivalent narrator, there is too little shading in the production to prick the sentimental bubble of nostalgia the NYT presents on stage.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER


MARILYN KINGWILL

Bitter harvest: five sisters confront their fears in the National Youth Theatre staging of Brian Friel's modern classic

Rich, moving tribute

Twenty-five years ago this month the Chilean singer, poet and revolutionary, Victor Jara, was tortured and murdered by members of the military during the brutal coup that overthrew President Allende's Popular Unity Government.

Jara, who started life as a barefoot shanty child, was an *authentic freedom fighter who* proudly boasted that his guitar was an instrument of struggle that could shoot like a gun. *Today democracy has been re*stored in Chile but those who ordered Jara's execution have never been brought to book.

The cases of thousands who literally disappeared during and after the coup also remain

WORLD MUSIC
Jara Memorial
Festival Hall

unsolved and so this was a bittersweet tribute: partly a celebration of his life but also a remembrance of its tragedy.

Tribute concerts are often long on emotion and shorter on musical excellence, and the compère Emma Thompson, who has bought the film rights to Jara's life, gushed and his widow, Joan, made a moving address. But Richard Eyre, who directed, was equally concerned to create an evening of memorable music.

If the first half was a little lacklustre — with Karen Matheson of Capercaillie singing Jara's work translated into Gaelic alongside Robert Burns and a frankly out-of-place Ricky Ross from Deacon Blue — then the second half more than compensated.

Chile's best-known band, Inti-Illimani, were close friends of Jara's. When the coup happened, they were out of the country on tour, and stayed on the road in exile for the next 15 years. The eight-strong ensemble proved that there is far more to Andean music than ponchos and panpipes, using guitars, violins and oboe as well as traditional instrumental to create rich textures of sound.

They were joined by the flamenco virtuosos Paco Pena and John Williams on some achingly melancholic tunes, and *towards the end* Peter Gabriel made a rare appearance *to join them for two songs* of his own, including *Hold On*, an *appropriately powerful* number about freedom and resistance.

Anyone moved by Jara's *story should seek out Manifes*to, the long-unavailable last album he recorded, now re-released to mark the anniversary *of his murder*. He gave his life for the cause he believed in but his song goes on.

NIGEL WILLIAMSON

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

LONDON

BBC PROMS: Raphael Oleg is the soloist with the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra in the first Proms performance ever of Szymanowski's Violin Concerto No 1. Libor Pesek *conducts the concert which also* features works by Dvorak and Brahms (7pm). At 10pm the works of Hildegard of Bingen is celebrated as the German medieval ensemble Sequentia gives a semi-staged performance of the 12th-century abbess and visionary's morality play set to music, Ordo Virtutum. Albert Hall (0171-589 8212).

CRAVE: Sarah Kane's impressive play for four speakers, telling of love and allied troubles. Vicky Featherstone directs for Paines Plough. Ambassadors (0171-565 5000) Preview, 7.45pm.

VIA DOLOROSA: David Hare performs in his own one-man play confronting the experience of a first visit to Israel and Palestine. Stephen Daldry directs. Duke of York's (0171-565 5000) Opens tonight, 7pm. Until Oct 3.

RAICES FLAMENCAS: The Gypsy family troupe *Farruco visits London* for the first time with a programme making a dazzling journey back to the origins of flamenco dance. Festival Hall (0171-960 4242). Tonight-Sun, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm.


David Hare acts in his own play, *Via Dolorosa*

MOLD: Sylvia Miles plays the hectoring mother from Illinois in They Offered Bob And Wilma Cash!, Steven Froelich's comedy about emotional rivalries in 1960s America. Anthony Hopkins Theatre (01352 755114). Opens tonight, 7.30pm.

POOLE: The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra under its principal conductor Yakov Kreizberg plays Glinka, Schmidt and Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No 3, with the Russian pianist Arcadi Volodosand as soloist. Repeated at the Proms tomorrow. Poole Arts Centre (01202 685222). Tonight, 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

LEICESTER: Paul Kerryson directs Kathryn Evans and Linzi Hateley as mother and daughter in The Rink, Kander and Ebb's musical set at a roller skating rink.

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only ◪ Some seats available ☐ Seats at all prices

☐ **CRIME AND PUNISHMENT:** First production of the Steam Industry's *so-called Discipline Season: Phil* Willmott directs Rodney Ackland's version of Dostoevsky. Finborough (0171-373 3842).

☐ **THE LADY BOYS OF BANGKOK:** Bizarre West End appearance for 20 Thai transvestites, said to be world famous, in an extravaganza of dance, cabaret and costume changes. Queens (0171-494 5041).

☐ **PERSONALS:** Love via the small ads: British premiere for New York comedy musical revue by the team who went on to write Friends New End, NW3 (0171-794 0022).

◪ **THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE:** Mark Rayment directs Belinda Lang in Alan Ayckbourn's comedy about a surprising love and its unsurprising *consequences for lovers.* Unforgettably ingenious set. Duchess (0171-494 5075)

☐ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND:** Now in its fifth London theatre. Peter Hall's excellent production, brimful of deceptions. With Christopher Cazenove, Susannah York, and Oliver Cotton. Royal, Haymarket (0171-930 8800)

☐ **FULL GALLOP:** Mary Louise Wilson's performance as Diana Vreeland, the Vogue fashion diva, earned her an Obie Award on Broadway. Hampstead, NW3 (0171-722 9301).

☐ **GLOOMY SUNDAY:** Julian Littman plays Rudi Seress, eccentric Hungarian composer of the Billie Holiday hit, who chose poverty in Budapest while huge royalties lay unclaimed in New York. Stephen Wisher directs Peter Müller's account of his life. Jermyn Street, SW1 (0171-287 2875). Until September 12.

◪ **THE PLAY ABOUT THE BABY:** Frances de la Tour, Alan Howard in Edward Albee's odd play about the doubts and distress of parenthood. Howard Davies directs Almeida, N1 (0171-359 4404)

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

Geoff Brown's choice of the latest movies

NEW RELEASES

CARESSES: Rarified Spanish film about unsatisfactory love from idiosyncratic director Ventura Pons, adapted from a play and packed with talk.

HANDS (PG): Poetic, lesbing, dialogue-free Russian film documenting society's outcasts in the town of Kishinev. Director, Artur Aristakisyan.

HE GOT GAME (18): Errant father needs to make peace with his son, a gifted basketball player. Endearing oddity from Spike Lee, with Denzel Washington, Ray Allen, and Aaron *Copland's music.*

THE LAND GIRLS (12): Pale adventures of three young women working on a Dorset farm during the Second World War. David Leland directs Catherine McCormack, Rachel Weisz, and Anna Friel.

THE LAST DAYS OF DISCO (15): Wordy entanglements of college graduates in a New York dance club. *Fine cast, good period sounds, but* no pep. Whit Stillman directs.

SPECIES II (18): Dishevelled and excessive horror sequel, with Natasha Henstridge as the *man-made alien combating an* intestation from Mars. With Michael Madsen and Justin Lazard.

WAY OUT WEST (U): Laurel and Hardy gently spoof the Western genre in their wonderful 1937 feature, revived to mark the 70th anniversary of the team's official pairing.

CURRENT

THE REAL HOWARD SPITZ (PG): Would-be wacky romantic comedy *from Vadim Jean, co-director of Leon* the Pig Farmer. With Kelsey Grammer and Amanda Donohue

THE SPANISH PRISONER (PG): Naive scientist gets drawn into a con *trick. Spry entertainment from* writer-director David Mamet, with Campbell Scott, Steve Martin, and Rebecca Pidgeon.

ARMAGEDDON (12): Oil driller Bruce Willis and his roughneck crew strike out into space to save the world. Absurdly childish, and enjoyable, blockbuster. With Billy Bob Thornton, Ben Affleck, and Liv Tyler.

THE X-FILES (15): Mulder and Scully tumble upon an extra-terrestrial virus More an extended TV episode than a blockbuster movie. With David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson. *Director, Rob Bowman.*

Wry fun with timeless appeal

COMEDY
Jasper Carrott
Wycombe Swan

Was that Status Quo playing over the PA before the start of the show? If so, it was an appropriate choice, since Jasper Carrott survives as another stubbornly unfashionable institution.

Comedians of his ilk seldom get reviewed nowadays. That hardly seems fair, considering that he, for one, still commands a large, multigenerational following. He certainly avoids short-changing his public. Carrott's Wycombe show — part of a lengthy national tour — lasted a good 2½ hours without the help of a support act. It was, in fact, too much of a good thing, *especially in a* second half that meandered through one or two anecdotes too many. At the close he finally *picked up his guitar for a* perfunctory medley of parodies that might have created more of a contrast halfway *through the evening.*

But Carrott is still consistently wry and witty, whether recalling the trauma of dragging his skinny legs through the London Marathon or learning to scuba dive on holiday in Bali. A long set piece about an encounter with a rat in the hotel ended with a disappointingly flat pay-off. Middle age, the millennium, Bill Clinton's trousers, the perils of watching late-night satellite channels: these were all reasonably safe targets. Still, there is nothing wrong with variations on old themes, and Carrott possesses the casual observational skills to make the wisecracks appear thoroughly spontaneous.

Once or twice a stray thought seemed about to take him on a stream of consciousness detour; in the end he resisted the temptation. A pity.

All in all, not the stuff to take the Edinburgh Festival by storm, perhaps. But his show *provides a much more reliable* barometer of mainstream tastes. Raunchy humour is as acceptable as it was in Max Miller's day: the grannies behind me laughed as loudly as anyone.

You couldn't help noticing, too, *that Carrott felt free to* build a sequence around his role as MC at the recent Althorp charity concert. David Hasselhof was his ostensible target. But how long will it be before he delivers his first Di and Dodi joke?

CLIVE DAVIS

A blind date with satire

Personals
New End, NW3

It is true: there are few lonelier hearts than a critic's, *James Christopher writes.* I've never had the gumption to place a personal ad in a newspaper or magazine, but every other night I respond to one that promises me the world. The problem with these blind dates is that they never mention their failings.

Once in a blue moon, however, a show comes along that makes the whole elaborate charade seem worthwhile. This satirical revue about the personal ad industry is one such gem. Cut and polished for more than twelve years by an eight-strong team of American lyricists and songwriters — led by David Crane, Seth Friedman and Marta Kauffman — the score sparkles with invention.

There is a sophistication *and enthusiasm* about Dion McHugh's production that starts and ends with Matthew Freeman's immaculate three-piece band. Stephen Schwartz's opening song, *Nothing To Do With Love*, sets the blood racing and dictates the *show's format. Five serial per*sonal ad writers, and Martin Callaghan's cynical typesetter, compose laughable advertisements for themselves that have more to do with who they want to be, rather than the neurotic, desperate daters they are. Snippets like "lustful lioness seeks ferocious lion to play in her den", "I'm a healthy Republican, I've never been in therapy" and "seeking black bisexual dwarf" are somehow woven into songs as disparate as the Sondheim-ish *Moving In With Linda* (Schwartz) and a *Grease*-style skit on Jewish mothers. *Mama's Boys* (Seth and Joel P. Friedman). In between, the actors sketch their own hapless progress.

For David Bardsley's no-hoper this means practising pick-up lines with a tape-recorder, *which conspires to* chuck him. For Callaghan's over-plump typesetter and his wife, it's discovering true love *with a black, bisexual dwarf.* It starts getting unnecessarily silly when Christina Fry ends up with a giant, animated baked potato.

But mostly these are voices to relish, particularly that of Ria Jones, who turns *I Think You Should Know* into an electrifying Bridget Jones torch song. When their harmonies tighten up by fifths in *Some Things Don't End*, you can feel the hairs on your neck going with them.

Cherish this, it may be the closest you get to these performers for a long time.

CLASSICAL CONCERTS

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You don't want a party like that

Michael Gove says Ashdown's Lib Dems are smug and bossy

Paddy Ashdown only thinks he's Britain's best-known Liberal Democrat. The nation's most conspicuous example of current Lib Dem ideology in action is actually a bespectacled but voluble figure in a white flat cap and golfing blouson. With his deathless injunction, "you don't want to go and do it like that, you want to go and do it like this," Harry Enfield's Interfering Old Git captures more succinctly than the Lib Dem leader ever could the essence of Ashdownism. The Enfield character's catchphrase lives in the mind longer than any Ashdown soundbite, but it resonates because it encapsulates the attitude of all the little Captain Ashdowns across the country.

The Ashdownite, a very English blend of Captain Mainwaring and Obadiah Slope, is smug and bossy without ever having won or run anything worthwhile. Pompous, pious and incapable of accepting that others might grow through error because he can never admit errors himself. Ashdownism is less an ideology than a character defect. Sufferers are drawn ineluctably to the shrunken chambers of local government, with their unrivalled opportunities for licensing and lecturing while always laying the blame elsewhere.

> Pompous, pious and unable to admit his own errors

Mr Ashdown was at it again this week, before we'd even shaken the sand out of our plimsolls, telling us where we'd got it all wrong in a brand new policy document and styling his party the "pathfinders" of British politics. Self-praise, as my mother always said, is no honour. But it is not just in his description of himself as a pathfinder that Mr Ashdown errs. He is neither very liberal nor particularly attached to democracy.

The same week that Mr Ashdown was sewing the pathfinder badge on his knapsack, he found himself falling in behind the Government as it enacts a series of draconian anti-terrorist measures. Although Mr Ashdown has often told us that his conscience is affronted by new Labour's authoritarianism, he did not vote against this, the most egregiously authoritarian of all the Government's acts. What use is a liberal who will not stand up for liberty when reaction is pulling on its boots?

Britain needs a stronger liberal voice and a political force prepared to safeguard those institutions where decisions are still taken democratically. It had such a voice in Jo Grimond, it can hear the same values in the speeches of Conrad Russell, but it won't find them in Mr Ashdown's leadership. He makes no secret of his disdain for Parliament. He narrows his eyes, in a posture so vain you would not be surprised to see him add a beauty spot to a rouged cheek, and looks beyond the Commons to a strengthened Brussels and an independent central bank. Power is to be insulated from fickle electorates who have stubbornly declined to hand it to him.

Mr Ashdown takes pride in having been the party leader most consistently in favour of taking the management of the currency out of the hands of elected representatives. Any democrat who was genuinely liberal would be happy to live with errors in economic policy as the price of keeping policy-making properly accountable. The true liberal prefers freedom to efficiency. But tidy-minded Mr Ashdown cannot allow that to happen: the nation shouldn't do it like that, they should do it like this.

Such majestic impatience with the voters' inability to do the right thing, that's to say his thing, might not be liberal but it could be admirable if it were married to a certain consistency. There's always a place for the prophet in politics, as light to the ungodly. But Mr Ashdown is no Old Testament prophet, he worships a different golden calf every year.

In the early 1990s the Liberal Democrats were a laisser-faire party, criticising the Tories from the Right on competition grounds, advocating radical rail privatisation and opposition to the social chapter. Now Mr Ashdown has taken his party alongside Labour, speaking up for the producer interest in the public services, opposed to privatisation and wedded to the social chapter's regulatory model.

The only piece of baggage retained on this curious journey across the wilderness has been a promise to increase income tax by a penny to pay for more education spending; but even that apparent consistency is a mirage in the Liberal Democrat desert. Since that first, arbitrary promise was made, taxes have increased and so has spending on schools, but the slogan is too precious to ditch. You don't want to raise taxes and improve schools like that, you want to do it like this.

But why break a butterfly upon a wheel? What harm does the Liberal Democrat leader do? Unfortunately he may be about to do a great deal, both to Britain and to liberalism. In an effort to buy Liberal Democrat compliance at Westminster and Lib Dem votes in the country, Tony Blair is likely to offer the Lib Dem leader a change in the voting system that would all but guarantee him a place in government. It would also guarantee that future governments were chosen by politicians after elections, rather than by people at elections.

It is with that prize in mind that Mr Ashdown has seemed to conduct himself. He has declined to vote against the Government when it mattered, an accomplice in their illiberalism hoping to benefit from their rewriting of democracy. Mr Ashdown may secure his seat in the Cabinet, but he will have bought it by selling liberal principles short. True liberals are instinctive enemies of monopolies. Are there enough left in Mr Ashdown's party to tell him he does not enjoy one in wisdom and he should help to create one in power?



Princes or paupers?

The think-tankers of the People's Party are out of touch with the people

Libby Purves

Poor old Demos. Just as new Labour's favourite think-tank comes up with its ideas for a cooler monarchy, the nation's attention is distracted. A threat is posed to a national icon, one of the central pillars of British life: it is proposed to change its funding and historical status forever. Good heavens, with this great change hanging over Manchester United, how can we be expected to pay any attention to Demos's ideas for the Royal Family? What should have been the top headline is banished to the inside pages.

To add insult to this injury Downing Street squeaks that "this report has nothing to do with the Government"; giving the clear message that it is dead in the water. Damn! We have been done out of an interesting discussion. Just because Modernising the Monarchy is full of potty ideas does not mean it can be disregarded. Hidden among them are some useful points. Equally importantly the tone of the report, coming from a source so close to new Labour thinking, offers fine clues to the way the People's Party, nervy and metropolitan and neurotically obsessed with modernisation, is in constant danger of losing touch with the great, silent, amazed, emotionally unmodernised majority of actual People.

The Demos suggestions are, *pace* Tim Hames on these pages yesterday, wild. (It is also a bit rich of Mr Hames to reprove Buckingham Palace for its "new, slick, emphasis on presentation", while speaking for the organisation that invented "rebranding Britain". Talk about ingratitude.)

Anyway, his proposal for a "relevant" monarchy is this. All remaining political powers, token as they are, get stripped from the monarch: no openings of Parliament, no Royal Assents, no drive to the Palace after a general election, no knightings. Instead we would have certificates signed by the Speaker and an independent (ie, new-Lab-packed) honours commission. So there would be no symbolic "Crown" authority invoked in anything real: it would rapidly become a nonsense to put a royal face on stamps and coins.

This, say the authors, would "enhance the transparency of political life". It is hard to see how. Given the recent propensity of British Governments for pathologically secretive behaviour, there are worse threats to transparency than the Queen. I may be missing something here, but as a citizen I have always been vaguely comforted by the sense that the Crown, and therefore the nation, endures like weathered granite through whatever turpitude and buffoonery may pass in Parliament. There is also something reassuring in the knowledge that every Prime Minister, every week, has a confidential and not necessarily comfortable conversation with a monarch: that is to say with someone who is not their dependant, not their sycophant, who has no political affiliation beyond patriotism and who has seen governments rise and fall over decades. This sense of continuity, of a nation mature enough to be able to make electoral mistakes and later recant without risk of losing its identity, is profoundly useful. It is symbolised, like it or not, by all the dressed-up flummery of State Openings and chaps in breeches.

Another concept floated in the pamphlet is oddly referred to as "the supremacy of public opinion". Under Demos, any new monarch would have to pass an "affirmative referendum"; if he or she failed, the next heir would be voted on. No consideration is given to the volatility of public opinion; nor to the personal implications. Would Prince William, do you suppose, accede happily to a throne which had been contemptuously denied to his father? Would he be happy to be campaigned for by the media just after his grandmother's death?

Having acceded, would he accept to have every vestige of individual taste or talent neutralised, and replaced by some strict committee's blueprint for a right-on RoboKing? Under Demos, royal charities would be chosen by committee to include constituencies which "do not attract automatic sympathy" or tolerance (considering they have already adopted Aids, dementia, homelessness and a host of depressing ailments, the mind boggles). Royal patronage of art would not be allowed to be "centred on the past" — no, the monarch must actively promote "Britain's strength in contemporary arts", and pretend to be thrilled by heaps of turd and pickled calves. If the Prince of Wales did succeed, we could expect the poor chap's watercolour set to be wrenched from his hands and replaced by a chainsaw.

Despite all this regimentation it is, says Demos, important that the royals should be seen not to deserve "special treatment because of their social class", so they must be made to use not only state schools but the NHS at all times. A diktat which growing numbers of the ordinary Blairite middle classes would consider an infringement of their liberty. If a king may not pay for his own sinuses to be rodded out, then who may?

As for royal overseas tours, they would concentrate on "parts of the world where history has left behind somewhat fragile relationships between Britain and other countries"; so the lucky monarch could be wheeled around the globe apologising to everyone, preferably in standard class airline seats with his knees up to his chest and a reek of toilet chemicals ("no special treatment"). Back home, there would be no Balmoral or Sandringham to hide in: royal properties would be given "to the National Trust".

For all this vigorous emasculation of the monarchy, Mr Hames and his co-author Mark Leonard expect it still to shine. They see — though they do not comprehend — that most people enjoy the glamour of it. They emphasise the "symbolic" role of the monarchy and its grip on the nation's imagination; but they want, on behalf of a small North Londonish constituency of *bien-pensants*, to appropriate that mysterious power to their own ends — their own artistic preferences, their own PC charities, their own headlong, philistine modernism. These think-tankers do not really understand the source of royal magic, because they do not sympathise with the innate, gentle conservatism and romanticism of British hearts. But they want a bit of that magic for their own project, so they do not propose to free the royals from the goldfish bowl.

This is another very good reason for the heir and the spare to run screaming from their anointment. Even with the present degree of royal privilege, and the alleged covenant of self-restraint on the press, it was possible for close-up — albeit fuzzy — full-face pictures of two bereaved children at their mother's memorial service to be printed, very large, in several papers including *The Daily Telegraph*; followed by endless double-page spreads of a 13-year-old's arrival at school. Would you put up with that, if you weren't even allowed to choose your own pictures or your own charities or your own school or your own doctor or run and hide at Balmoral? Like hell you would.

And yet, for all its shallow modernist piety, the Demos report — just by existing — deserves a coconut. It is what Disney executives call a "blue sky" dream: an expression of willingness to think about impossible things and find small possible things as a result. Amid the rubbish are nuggets of importance. It is true that the momentum of royal adaptation must not stop: the monarchy must stay in touch with the people (not, please note, the People). It is true that the link with the Church of England is an embarrassment: a great many serious people feel that disestablishment is not only the best thing for the monarchy, but the only hope for the Church. There is also a discussion to be had about courtiers. The idea of a professional "Office of the Monarchy" is not without merit, although it should be said that if you actually look at who works at Buckingham Palace and St James's, there are already far fewer cut-glass accents than there used to be. The report unkindly says that the present Royal Household is "seen by many people as a welfare state for the minor aristocracy", which is a cheap gibe; all the same an office — rather than a household — might be seen as a better model.

So one cheer for Demos. A cat may look at a king. The cat may be wrong in its conclusions, but others, following its gaze, can draw their own. Miaow.

Football isn't just business

Simon Barnes on soccer's symbiosis with the zapper

On August 19, 1989, a rum little fellow with a bad moustache ran on to the pitch at Manchester United, wearing the red shirt of Manchester United football club and juggled a football in the time-honoured playground pastime known as "keepy-uppy".

This was Michael Knighton, the new chairman of the club, celebrating his purchase of the most celebrated club in football for £10 million. The keepy-uppy was the most solid, and certainly the most dignified, part of the deal.

The consensus was that Martin Edwards, the outgoing chairman, had done rather a smart deal in getting the white elephant of Manchester United off his hands. However, the Knighton millions never fully materialised, Mr Knighton left the club, and Mr Edwards returned as chairman.

This week, Mr Edwards is negotiating the sale of the same club for £575 million. Sometimes it pays to hold your nerve and wait for a price. The likely buyer, if newspapers like *The Times* are to be believed, is a chap called Rupert Murdoch. Mr Murdoch is one of the greatest jugglers in history: the maestro of keepy-uppy. I know. I am that football.

Or part of it, anyway. It is part of the pattern of things: Mr Murdoch buys venerable institutions, part of the bedrock of the countries in which he operates, and there is a tremendous outcry, and he seals the deal and then he does it again.

People are saying that it is the end of football as we know it. And of course they are right: and they wrong as well. Because football has already changed utterly. Or to be accurate, the way in which we watch football has changed: we have moved from massed terraces and Pathé news to executive suites and television, television, television.

And football people get nostalgic for the days of the real football fan, just as cricket people yearn for golden Edwardian afternoons with Denis Compton cover-driving comfortably into the Eighties (chronological exactitude has never been an important part of nostalgia).

Why can't we go back to those innocent days when football was the sport for the working man? And why can't we go back to the Pleistocene? But we shall never walk hand in hand with *Homo erectus*, and we shall never return to the terraces full of cloth-capped men, 19 pints of ale and a fish supper and still enough change to ride home in a hansom cab.

Time passes, shock. Things change, horror. The fact is that the proposed Murdoch deal rubs in this difficult aspect of life to an altogether unacceptable degree. But it has been coming since the first papapa POM papapa pompom of the *Match of the Day* theme tune was poured into the porches of our ears.

Football and television, television and football. In the Sixties, they said television would be the end of football as we know it: and they were right. Most commentators said it would leave football bankrupt: well, nearly right. Television has made football rich as never before, glamorous as never before, fashionable as never before, followed as never before.

Football and television has always been a symbiosis, but the nature of this symbiosis has changed. At first it was a rough and ready thing, like the egrets that stalk about the feet of the elephant, snapping up the insects disturbed by the monster's passage.

But these days the symbiosis is impossibly tight. There are termites who farm and grow a species of fungus inside their termite mounds. The insects live only on this fungus: the fungus is now only found in termite mounds. It cannot survive without its cultivators, nor the cultivators without the fungus.

Could modern big-time football survive without television? Could pay television survive without football? They have both, perhaps, gone past the point of no return. Big-time football is a big business, with many concerns other than sporting excellence. Pleasing shareholders is more important than pleasing fans: and note that with the Murdoch news, Manchester United's shares have gone through the roof. The fact that fans are hitting the roof is of small concern.

So we are condemned, some say, to a future of watching Mr Murdoch's club on Mr Murdoch's television channel. We pay for the channel: and no doubt soon we shall be watching each match on a pay-per-view basis. We are condemned: or are we?

We are born free: and the viewer with zapper in hand is a free person. It is not — another shock-horror revelation — compulsory to watch football on television. Even a football fan is free: as free as he wishes to be, at any rate. Old-fashioned footballing virtues exist: the entire Aztec pyramid of non-league football is chock-a-block with all those pleasant things the big clubs have lost.

Like value for money and mateyness and a nice bar. Or you could even go raving mad and play the game: which thrives, as ever, on such fields as Manchester United never dreamt on. Because the hidden truth of football is that it is not about fans: it is not about money; it is not even about money-men. It is about football. Always has been, always will be

Royal rescue

THE Prince of Wales is to step in to rescue Snowdon for the nation. He is to dip into the royal wallet to add a "substantial" donation to that of another popular top Taff. Sir Anthony Hopkins (pictured with the Prince). This follows simplistic reports elsewhere that the Prince was cutting his charitable donations. He was responding to bleatings from the National Trust in Wales, which is running out of time to raise £3 million to buy the miserable little hill, with 4,118 acres of variable pasture that makes up the Snowdonia estate. The trust hopes the Prince's gift, believed to be about £150,000, will kick-start an appeal that has stalled rather since Hopkins bunged over £1 million big ones. "The Prince is happy to make one of the largest donations this year from his Charities Foundation to the Snowdon fund," says the Palace. "Even though the Prince is not in Wales all the time he thinks it is important to preserve this national symbol." Income for the Prince of Wales's Charities Foundation is produced by sales of his watercolours and books.



Charles's largess is timely following reports that his donations have shrunk, despite profits from his estate rising to almost £6 million. The cash will be wasted unless this royal gesture galvanises valley dwellers. The National Trust is still £1 million short of the £3 million required to buy the estate and donations from within Wales work out at a rather Caledonian 5p per head. There is still time for Tom Jones to join Charles and Tony for an all-Welsh "Save Snowdon" spectacular. More radically, the trust could even raid its annual revenue of £145 million.

● *A BUNCH of nuns are to open their own golf course. Driving into a world of V-neck sweaters and "bottoms up to the good lady wife" are the Sisters of St Joseph. The entrepreneurs in Germany are investing £3.9 million in an 18-hole golf course. It will have five lakes, 8,000 shrubs, and 350 trees to thwart swingers aiming for a hole in one.*

DIARY

Town cries

CIVIL WAR has broken out between three Oxfordshire towns for the mantle of "oldest town in England". Wallingford boasts a town charter dating back to 1150 but Burford is claiming an extra half-century's antiquity. And now Abingdon has called in the Oxford Archaeological Unit to verify the size of its ancient burial mounds.

The Mayors of Wallingford and Burford have agreed to settle the heritage question with a good old-fashioned brawl. "A duel fought with a rolled up ancient parchment," proposes Keith Davies, the Burford bomber. "That should make the dust fly." Betty Atkins, the Wallingford walloper, fears she will be at a disadvantage: "I'm afraid the Mayor of Burford is a lot bigger than me." Too bad: let battle commence.

● *DR ERIC GRIFFITHS, the shopkeeper's son who sneered at a Cambridge interviewee for her Estuary vowels, appears to have apologised — in his own, donnish way. Griffiths, who forgot to mention his own, low table origins on his way to a fellowship at Trinity College, starts a review of Victoria Glendinning's* Jonathan Swift *with a disguised* mea culpa: *"Among the saddest words known to man are 'I was only joking'. Something meant as a tease comes over as a put-down: a deliberate exaggeration is taken straight. I tickle you, you feel molested." He presents this as analysis of Swift's habit of "laying banana-skins just where he or his reader were about". Tracy Playle, his victim, will undoubtedly feel "tickled" by his "banana-skins".*



"How dippy do you want them?"

Gown down

AN EVEN grander Cantabrigian is also set for a humbling. The Duke of Edinburgh, Chancellor of the gloomy little fenland educational establishment, is to be the subject of a debate among senior dons. The problem? His gown, a slinky black number with ornate gold gildings. On "scarlet days" (formal occasions) non-Cambridge PhDs are made to wear just simple black garments to reflect their humble academic standing.

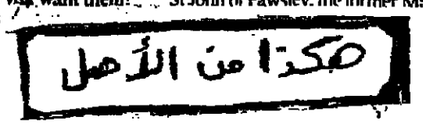
The University Council meets in November to discuss plans to lift the centuries-old tradition. Dons are to be balloted, which has excited the interests of less hard-working Cantabs. They mutter that the design of the Duke's gown "has not been authorised by any ordinance of the university".

Its "suitability" on the university's scarlet days will be raised at the first council after the vote. Lord St John of Fawsley, the former Master of Emmanuel and a Diary Towers regular, is weary: "As Lord Melbourne said: Why can't we let alone?"



● *EMILIA FOX (above) may be a scion of the most pukka of English theatre dynasties but she is no star on the cricket field. The actress daughter of Edward was chosen to bowl in a match between the Chichester Festival Theatre XI and the Earl of Arundel's XI. The result? A thwack to the boundary.*

JASPER GERARD





ACT TWO: THE DUMA

Zyuganov banks on a Communist return, without elections

Lenin, who thought "the worse, the better", would have applauded the farce enacted by Gennadi Zyuganov yesterday, as the Communist leader secured the rejection of Viktor Chernomyrdin as Russian Prime Minister for the second time. Outside the Duma, things are becoming dramatically worse; the rouble slumped yesterday to 20 to the dollar — less than a third of its rate last month — before the central bank suspended trading. And as Sergei Dubinin, the bank's monetarist head, resigned, Kremlin sources hinted at replacing him with Viktor Gerashchenko, the Soviet-era apparatchik who was the architect of Russia's last catastrophic bout of hyper-inflation.

Little though Russians can afford this parliamentary spectacle, it is still only at the end of the second act. President Yeltsin shows no signs of heeding opposition appeals to withdraw a candidate whom the Communists say they will "never" accept. He may be gambling that they were equally adamant last April about Sergei Kiriyenko, who did even worse than Mr Chernomyrdin in the second round but won the third with only 25 votes against him. Mr Zyuganov gave in then, rather than risk the dissolution of parliament which a third rejection triggers under the Constitution. But today, that is much less certain. Mr Zyuganov has pitched the stakes too high to be able to retreat without humiliation. His wager appears to be that Mr Yeltsin is now too weak to prevail — and that the Communists can sweep back to effective power without troubling to consult the voters.

Mr Yeltsin and Mr Chernomyrdin went perilously far towards letting this happen during the haggling prior to the latest vote. The "programme" that Mr Chernomyrdin put forward in his efforts to garner support was as inventive as an escape artist's manual. Coherence thrown to the winds, he wooed the Communists with talk of "economic dictatorship", the business community with soft credits and protectionist barriers, the unpaid workers with money-printing to fund wage arrears, and reformers and the IMF with a currency board — to be set up in months, not weeks, and only after inflation had again been let rip. Yesterday, as though conscious that bribery had got him nowhere, Mr Chernomyrdin reverted to sensible strategies, though without saying how to get from the awful here to the desirable there. "He doesn't even understand the programme he has proposed," said Mr Zyuganov. This may be true, but comes ill from an economic illiterate whose obduracy has caused much of the trouble.

Having aggravated Russia's crisis by sacking the last Government, Mr Yeltsin has no easy way out. In an ideal world, he should drop Mr Chernomyrdin in favour of Boris Fyodorov, a tough reformer who commands respect. For that very reason, the Duma would almost certainly reject him too, condemning Russia to fresh elections. But at least in the interim three months, Mr Yeltsin could form a technocratic government determined to pull the economy out of chaos. Other potential choices are either disreputable or, like Aleksandr Lebed, are presidential hopefuls who would see acceptance as equivalent to laying their heads on the political block. But if he persists in sticking with Mr Chernomyrdin, he will be under huge pressure to make yet more concessions.

The only sacrifice Mr Yeltsin could wisely offer would be his own person — in the form of a pledge to advance presidential elections to late 1999, once the situation has had a chance to stabilise. Where he should not compromise is on policy. The worst outcome for Russia would be a government headed by Mr Chernomyrdin, in which Communists call the shots. With their pathetic call for Russia to temper reform to a "social market economy", EU foreign ministers stupidly implied that backpedalling would receive international backing. As even such robust nationalists as Mr Lebed say, Russia's problem is too little, not too much, reform. It has troubles enough without well-meaning idiocies mouthed from gilded Vienna.

HAGUE'S RABBIT

A bold plan to strengthen the anti-EMU policy

William Hague yesterday followed what has been a profitable principle of recent political leadership: stand up for what you believe and face down your internal opponents. It worked for Neil Kinnock when he took on the Militant Tendency; it worked for Tony Blair when he rewrote Clause Four. Now Mr Hague hopes that, in calling a snap ballot of Tory party members on the issue of the single currency, he can put an end to division over Europe and clear the decks for next month's party conference.

It is a bold move and a sensible move, even though it may not deliver all that Mr Hague hopes. In the short term, a convincing victory (which is all but assured) will make arguments about the single currency in Bournemouth seem stale. Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine may strut and fret on the fringe, but will make little impact as their side, by then, will have lost.

A referendum victory will allow Mr Hague to confirm that, from now on, this is the one issue upon which he will not budge. Last autumn's waverings, when he shifted from "not for ten years" to "not for the foreseeable future" and back again, made the Tory leader look wobbly. Both sides then had an incentive to shout as loudly as they could in an attempt to pull policy in their direction. The result has been a Conservative Party that is still publicly divided.

Mr Hague has also chosen the right question to put to his members. The policy of opposing EMU at the next general election, which is the issue on the ballot, is neater and more persuasive than "no membership for ten years", which sounded oddly arbitrary and which, logically, was going to have to lose a year as each one passed.

The new clarity will make it easier for Mr Hague to turn the next election into a referendum on EMU membership. That may well be his strongest card. For this is the one issue on which the Conservatives still have the upper hand over Labour. Even if the gap is shrinking, voters still oppose Britain joining a single currency. Those who backed Labour at the last election, reassured by Mr Blair's agnostic stance, may be less keen at the next if he seems determined on EMU membership.

Mr Hague's opponents argue that his stance is too inflexible. But it is hard to see what events could occur in the near future that would make the single currency suddenly look attractive. However "successful" EMU may appear in its first year or two, it has to be tested, as the Tory leader rightly says, in good times and bad. One economic cycle would be the minimum sensible length of the experiment, and that may take about nine years.

The Tory leader would be mistaken, however, to draw too many optimistic parallels with Mr Blair. Yesterday he described divisions over Europe as a "legacy of the past". Unfortunately for him, and unlike Clause Four, the EMU debate is very much one of the present and the future. The other critical difference is that Mr Blair was taking on opponents who were both unpopular and on the extreme of his party. If they lost, they had nowhere else to go. Mr Hague's opponents, by contrast, are reasonably well liked and are on the moderate wing. They, or at least their supporters, could easily move to Labour or the Liberal Democrats.

Mr Hague is still right to pull this rabbit from his hat. Even if it does not solve all his European problems, it will entrench his policy and strengthen his leadership.

MAD SHEEP SCARE

The public must learn to understand the language of risk

The man who cries fire in a crowded theatre is rightly considered a cad, unless of course he really has seen a wisp of smoke drifting under the curtain. But it is far less easy to categorise the scientific whistle-blowers who add almost daily to the burden of risk the public has to bear. The latest to join their ranks is Professor Geoffrey Almond of Reading University, who yesterday gave warning that lamb, as well as beef, may be a source of BSE. If so, he said, it would be a national emergency with the possibility that 40 million animals would have to be slaughtered, and an industry destroyed.

Professor Almond is no wild scaremonger. He is one of a limited number of scientists who specialise in the spongiform encephalopathies, the group of diseases to which scrapie, BSE and CJD belong. As chairman of the sheep sub-committee of the Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee, he is under an obligation, should he perceive a risk, to convey it to the public. But the public, and the farming industry, is equally entitled to take a close look at the evidence on which the claim is made.

So far, there is none. It takes two years, and £30,000, to test each animal for BSE. So far only nine such tests have been done, all negative. The danger, then, is still entirely theoretical. It is possible that if BSE is a modified form of scrapie, or even if it is not, it could infect sheep and could behave differently from classical scrapie, which has been prevalent in Britain's flocks for two centuries without jumping to man.

If that were the case, it would indeed be a cause for alarm. Eliminating scrapie has proved to be impossible. So a form of BSE in sheep would be an even more daunting problem than BSE in cattle, especially as the agent is found in more tissues in sheep than it is in cows. Removing brains and spinal columns from lamb might not remove all the infective agent from the carcass.

But there are contrary arguments. Sheep do not find bonemeal as palatable as cattle, so ate much less of it in the 1980s, when it was contaminated with the agent of BSE. And lamb is eaten young, giving a much shorter time for the disease to develop. Statistics of scrapie do not show any evidence of a recent increase.

On balance, then, Professor Almond presents a powerful case for more research, but no reason for panic. Given the long history of misplaced reticence and outright misrepresentation over BSE in the early 1990s, to censure him for telling what he believes to be the truth would be wrong. But experts should guard their words carefully; and the public, in return, should try to learn the language of risk so that it can understand better what the experts really mean.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Future status of Scots Guardsmen

From Lord Campbell of Alloway, QC

Sir, There is anxiety that Guardsmen Fisher and Wright, who have been released on licence under a delegated remit of the royal prerogative of mercy (reports, September 3), may now be discharged from the Forces by the administrative decision of the Army Board. It is their known wish to return to active service, the prospect which sustained them while serving an indeterminate sentence of life-imprisonment. It is their entitlement to have assurance.

These men have always maintained that they acted in good faith in accordance with their training. The sense of the House of Lords, expressed without dissent, was that the findings in support of conviction were fundamentally flawed and that there had been a grave miscarriage of justice. It in no way pre-empts the judicial determination now to be sought by these men as requisite to set aside their convictions.

Due account must be taken of the affidavits, in particular those of Lance-Sergeant Swift in charge of the four-man foot patrol, of Guardsman Williams, the fourth man, and of Colonel Spicer who was in command of the 1st Battalion of the Scots Guards. The speeches of Lord Bramall, Lord Inge, Lord Chalfont and Lord Vivian of the All Party Defence Group (*Hansard*, June 23) also warrant the attention of the Army Board.

If these men are to be discharged from the Forces there must be a reasoned decision.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
CAMPBELL of ALLOWAY,
2 King's Bench Walk,
Temple, EC4Y 7DE.
September 7.

Industrial tribunals

From Mr S. R. Montlake

Sir, In your later editions today you report two industrial tribunal judgments — one concerning the "unfair" dismissal of Peter Hain's secretary for "bringing personal problems into the office", the other a sales assistant "unfairly" sacked for not having revealed her pregnancy to her prospective employers. Both cases cast doubt on the common sense of such tribunals.

In the former case you reveal a lady incapable of carrying out a highly responsible job because of personal difficulties which obviously overwhelmed her. One cannot but have considerable sympathy for the lady concerned. But what on earth was Peter Hain supposed to do about it? His responsibilities (as were hers) were to the running of his public office in the best interest of his constituents.

In the other case a pregnant lady was taken on to do a job for which she was unfitted. Once again, one has to have sympathy for her; but the purely commonsense question which she should have been asked (and which, not having been asked, she might have volunteered) her erstwhile employers were not allowed to ask on the ground of sex discrimination — namely, are you pregnant?

Surely the personnel on these tribunals should be reminded of their responsibilities not only to the complainant but also to the employer.

Yours faithfully,
S. R. MONTLAKE,
97 Hanworth Road,
Hampton, Middlesex TW12 3EA.
September 5.

From Mr Terence F. Matthews

Sir, For anybody to obtain employment by not disclosing any reason which would cause them to be absent from work for some weeks or to be physically incapable of carrying out that work should, I believe, be ground for instant dismissal.

Since to make a false statement to obtain a pecuniary advantage is a crime, it should surely be illegal for an industrial tribunal to compensate those not disclosing facts that could affect their employment. Can a man — or a woman come to that — now obtain compensation when dismissed because they did not disclose they were waiting for a serious operation that would place them sick for a number of weeks? I think not.

If it is illegal to ask a woman if she is pregnant when applying for employment, companies (especially small ones) should protect themselves by asking her: "Have you any reason to believe that you have a medical condition that will require you to take time off work in the next 12 months?"

To answer no when in fact there was such a reason would, in my view, be an instant-dismissal offence.

Yours sincerely,
TERENCE F. MATTHEWS,
17 Glebe Way,
Hornchurch, Essex RM11 3RL.
September 5.

Put in quad

From Mr Peter Strachan Cowie

Sir, When I was at school in the mid-1970s, we were bemused at an instruction given by the master in charge of training the school's first XV. He is reputed to have asked his charges to "pair off in threes" (letters, September 4). The master concerned taught geography, not mathematics.

Yours faithfully,
PETER STRACHAN COWIE,
58a Finborough Road,
West Brompton, SW10 9EE.
September 4.

Availability of Viagra on the NHS

From the Chairman of Pfizer Ltd

Sir, Yesterday a Sunday newspaper reported that the Government will make a decision in the near future about the availability of Viagra on the NHS, a subject discussed in the letters from Dr A. M. Gordhandas and Mr Peter Orr (August 28).

Dr Gordhandas refers in his letter to patients suffering from various diseases associated with impotence, such as diabetes or multiple sclerosis. We at Pfizer are not, of course, suggesting that these patients should be denied access to specialist treatment for these conditions through a consultant. However, we believe that there is no need for the patient to be referred to a consultant urologist for the prescription of Viagra. All other treatments for impotence currently available on the NHS may be prescribed by GPs. Why should Viagra be any different?

We also disagree with Dr Gordhandas's suggestion that in the absence of the conditions to which he refers it is impossible for the GP to prove or disprove impotence. We believe that the diagnosis is straightforward, and that it is best carried out by the GP who understands all the personal circumstances of the patient and may well know the patient's partner (who is often key in the decision on whether to undergo treatment).

Mr Orr's letter reminds us that "impotence . . . [is] not life-threatening". I am not aware that the vast majority of drugs available on the NHS are licensed to treat only life-threatening conditions; this has never been, and nor should it be, the sole criterion whereby a drug is available on the NHS.

We believe that impotence is a condition which the GP is in the best position to treat, including the prescription of the appropriate medicine, and that its diagnosis is a simple matter. It would be perverse indeed if this new treatment for the condition were not to be available on the NHS when other older treatments are so available.

Yours faithfully,
KEN MORAN,
Chairman and Managing Director,
Pfizer Ltd,
63-65 Petty France, SW1H 9EU.
September 7.

Duty-free sales

From Mr Tim Hayward

Sir, You report (August 31) an expected rise of at least 10 per cent on fares to the Continent to be imposed by ferry operators, Eurotunnel and several airlines, apparently caused by the end of duty-free shopping next summer (letters, August 10, 15, 22).

This rise will penalise regular travellers in favour of the cut-price, day-trip shopper and do nothing to help British exports. Cross-Channel operators seem bent on using the end of duty free as an excuse to maximise profits and to push up fares before the price-rise cap in 2001 rather than charging sensible fares across the board.

Duty-paid goods purchased by the operators in Europe but outside the UK and then sold on board cross-Channel ferries, for instance, would still offer as good a deal for passengers as the present duty-free facilities and maintain good profit levels for the companies. After all, supermarkets in France have often undercut or matched the ferries' duty-free prices and still made a handsome return.

If day-trippers were charged sensible ferry fares rather some of the ridiculously cheap promotional ticket prices, then the regular or occasional traveller to the Continent would not be forced to pay what are, mile-for-mile, among the highest ferry fares in the world. In addition, making freight operators bear the brunt of the increases can hardly help Britain's exports and is likely to be a small but real contributor to inflation.

The cost of getting across the Channel is already quite high enough without the operators behaving like pirates and charging their captive customers even more.

Yours faithfully,
T. A. G. HAYWARD,
2 Bush Road, Kew,
Richmond, Surrey TW9 3AN.
wbanana@aol.com
September 1.

From Miss Jane M. Reynolds

Sir, It has long been known that one can bring a greater volume of wines and spirits into Britain if one pays the mainland Europe "duty" tax than if one purchases duty-free on board a ferry. There is also a better choice.

Some years ago my elderly mother consumed my last remaining drop of calvados (she did not know what it was, except it was "very good"). Horrified at the price I was asked to pay to replace it at my local off-licence, I booked a seat on a "booze cruise" charabanc to Boulogne.

I paid the same for the door-to-door transport *and* one bottle of calvados as I would have done for a single, similar bottle at my local supplier, and I had a whole range of calvados to choose from. Because I had made this purchase within mainland Europe, I was permitted to bring a second bottle into Britain.

Yours faithfully,
JANE REYNOLDS,
Sandal, 68 Firs Road,
West Mersea, Colchester CO5 8NL.
September 1.

Unrest in the Park

From Mr Christopher Hitchens

Sir, In your reporter's diverting account of Dr David Starkey's brush with Princess Diana's militant tendency [September 1; letters, September 3] it is said that word of the mini-confrontation "quickly crossed the park to the NBC people, who were expecting Hitchens later: they promptly decided to keep him in a studio instead".

I write to defend myself against the faint imputation of having avoided combat. I wasn't due to make any NBC appearance that day, but I wouldn't have agreed to retire to a studio in any event. On the preceding Sunday, I was being interviewed outside Kensington Palace by Canadian television when various spectators interrupted with great rudeness and said that we had no right to be in the consecrated gardens. There was no call for any police protection, though perhaps an experienced sheepdog might have come in handy.

Might I just add that Dr Starkey is in error in describing these people as anti-monarchists who saw the late Princess as "the republicans' secret weapon". Resentful about the present Royal Family they may be, but they are as devoutly deferential as any Jacobite, or as those poor dupes who once saw Edward VIII as a man of the people victimised by the stuffy old Establishment. Republicans do not attribute superhuman and supernatural virtues to Princesses, alive or dead.

Yours,
CHRISTOPHER HITCHENS,
2022 Columbia Road NW,
Washington DC 20009.
September 2.

Art and architecture

From the Chief Executive of the Public Monuments and Sculpture Association

Sir, Westminster City Council is to be congratulated on its perseverence in securing the future of the Henry Moore sculpture and other works which form an integral part of the architectural history of the Time Life building ("Art taken from listed building must go back", August 27).

Westminster's spokesman, Michael Lowndes, rightly asserts that the outcome of this case should serve as a national precedent — which the PMSA feels, had it been in place, might have prevented many earlier losses including a Henry Moore, a Barbara Hepworth and a Geoffrey Clarke.

That said, we should be concerned at the current anomaly where architectural sculpture of significant artistic or historical value is apparently deemed ineligible for listing if it is part of a building which is itself ineligible.

A substantial ceramic architectural sculpture by John Piper comes to mind: part of the design of the 1960s British Gas building in Fulham, this was listed only after considerable effort by various parties. Work by Siegfried Charoux, Gilbert Ledward, Gilbert Bayes, and others of this calibre could also be included, as well as important collections of postwar public sculpture in locations such as Coventry and some of the New Towns.

Yours truly,
JO DARKE,
Chief Executive, Public Monuments and Sculpture Association,
72 Lissenden Mansions,
Lissenden Gardens, NW5 1PR.

From Mr Stuart Lipton

Sir, The decision by the Deputy Prime Minister that freestanding works of art commissioned for new buildings must remain in place should a premises become listed, is a retrogressive step for the world of art and architecture.

As someone who has commissioned a number of works, I appreciate the difficulties of being a patron — the high cost of acknowledged work, the need, and often difficulty, of obtaining planning permission, the tenacity required to go through a selection process, adapting the relevant piece of building or exterior space and then establishing a working relationship with the artist.

In the last few years a few patrons have emerged to commission good works of art and architecture as cohesive pieces of work. Government itself is only interested in the lowest possible project cost of its buildings.

This change in policy by the Deputy Prime Minister, effectively listing freestanding art, will surely discourage those interested in commissioning work which they may wish subsequently to move. There are strong social, cultural and business reasons for creating a stimulating environment for the general public and personnel in buildings. Patrons need encouragement to experiment.

Yours faithfully,
STUART LIPTON,
26-28 Mount Row, W1Y 5DA.
September 3.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

Vicenzans' fancy for feline flavours

From Mr Charles Quest-Ritson

Sir, It will come as no surprise to any reader who is familiar with Italy that a cook from Vicenza should boast of his recipe for cat stew (leading article, September 3). There is a popular rhyme which compares the characteristics of the inhabitants of the four principal towns of the Veneto:

Veneziano, gran Signore;
Padovano, buon dottore;
Veronesi, tutti matti;
Vicentini, mangiagatti.

Which loosely translates as: "The Venetians are tremendous nobs; Paduans are clever doctors (the medical school at the university is famous throughout Italy); all the Veronese are completely mad; the Vicenzans are cat-eaters."

I live close to Stonehenge, which is much frequented by foreign tourists. Some time ago I saw a car with a Vicenza numberplate parked while its occupants visited the ancient monument. It had accumulated rather a lot of dust during the 800 miles from Vicenza and, as I watched, another party of holidaying Italians traced the word *MANGIAGATTI* on its paintwork.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES QUEST-RITSON,
Highfield House,
Shrewton, Wiltshire SP3 4BU.
101516.140@compuserve.com
September 4.

From Mr Adrian Bailey

Sir, Your Rome correspondent reported on September 3 that there is a tradition of eating cat in Vicenza and that *il gato in tecia* (cat in a pot) is at its best in winter.

To judge by a recent visit to neighbouring Verona there appears to be no closed season for donkey, foal or horse. At a fashionable restaurant, the menu included *stracotto d'asino* (braised donkey), *costata di puledro* (foal cutlet) and horse meat prepared in a number of different ways.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN BAILEY,
25 Chepstow Place, W2 4TT.
September 3.

'Cyber-sickness'

From Mr Edward Ross

Sir, Your feature, "Trapped in a Web of misery" (September 2), on so-called "cyber-sickness" illustrates some of the reasons we sad "surfing anoraks" become antisocial.

The study for *American Psychologist* seems to conclude that just because I sit at a computer for a substantial part of the day communicating with considerably more people than I would otherwise, that I am, somehow, less able to communicate.

Is it any wonder that we regular computer users lie "to family or colleagues about the amount of time spent on the Internet"? We may do this to conceal what should not have to be concealed — that we are users of new technology — to avoid being labelled "geeks" or "nerds" or other such nonsense.

Yours sincerely,
EDWARD ROSS,
38 Wykeham Way,
Burgess Hill,
West Sussex RH15 0HF.
edross@pavilion.co.uk
September 2.

Geek-speak lexicon

From Mr Robert Goddard

Sir, As a student of the political lexicon, I must inform you that the phrase "pondlife" (letter, August 27) is not restricted to "geek-speak".

It is sometimes prefixed (in colloquial parlance) with "parliamentary" to create a somewhat derogatory phrase to describe the obsequious inhabitants of the backbenches.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT GODDARD,
1 Priest Thorn,
Fifehead Neville,
Sturminster Newton,
Dorset DT10 2AQ.

Novel inscription

From Mr Oliver Chastney

Sir, I suspect the unfortunate Mr Cushley will think more carefully about any future tokens of his affection to his wife after reading her letter (September 3).

It has never occurred to me to tell my wife — although my secret is now out — that "Happy Birthday Caroline and Best Wishes. Delia Smith 1993" was penned on the title page of the excellent *Summer Collection* by a complete stranger.

He and I were horrified at the prospect of the two-hour queue that snaked around the shelves of the local store and which, because of the cunning layout, only became apparent after purchasing the book.

Following a brief conspiratorial conversation, we swapped suitably inscribed books — mine to his mother, his to my wife — and went our separate ways.

Impulse purchases provoked by pen-wielding authors at the local bookstore are perhaps best avoided.

Yours faithfully,
OLIVER CHASTNEY,
53 Keswick Road,
Cringleford, Norwich NR4 6UQ.
chastneyo@aol.com
September 5.

COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE
September 7: The Duke of Edinburgh today visited Farnborough International Air Show and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire (Mrs Christopher Fagan).

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
September 7: The Duke of York, President, this evening attended a Dinner for the Faldo Junior Series at the Forte Posthouse, Erskine, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Renfrewshire (Mr Cameron Parker).

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
September 7: The Prince Edward, President, the Commonwealth Games Federation, this evening arrived in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and was received by the British High Commissioner (His Excellency, Mr David Moss).

Birthdays today

Sir John D.K. Brown, company director, 85; Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, composer, 64; Miss Anne Diamond, broadcaster, 44; Mr Michael Frayn, playwright, 65; Mr Anthony Frodsham, management consultant, 79; Mr Fred Jarvis, trade unionist, 74; Sir Denys Lasdun, CH, architect, 84; the Marquess of Lothian, 76; Mr Geoff Miller, cricketer, 46; Vice-Admiral Sir Roy Newman, 62; Mr Jack Rosenthal, playwright, 67; Sir Harry Secombe, comedian, 77; Professor E.H. Sondheimer, mathematician, 75; Colonel James Stirling of Garden, Lord-Lieutenant of Stirling and Falkirk, 68; Lord Warner, 58; Mr A.B. Wilson, former Chief Commoner, 80.

Memorial service

Mr Arthur Rees
A memorial service for Arthur Rees will be held at St Mary's Parish Church, Stafford, on Friday, September 18, 1998, at 2pm.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.J.F. Batty and Miss N.LeB. Bridgewater
The engagement is announced between Richard, younger son of Mr and Mrs Peter Batty, of Kingston, Surrey, and Nancy, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Adrian Bridgewater, of Great Eversden, Cambridgeshire.

Mr F.S. Bury and Miss A.K. FitzWilliam-Lay
The engagement is announced between Frank, only son of Mr and Mrs Lindsay Bury, of Millichope Park, Shropshire, and Antonia, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs David FitzWilliam-Lay, of Savernake Forest, Wiltshire.

Mr M.G. Capps and Miss H.C. Calvert
The engagement is announced between Matthew Grendon, younger son of the late Mr Michael Capps and of Mrs Madeleine Capps, of Ringmore, Devon, and Helen Claire, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Calvert, of Cobham, Surrey.

Mr N. Gall and Miss S.C. Mason
The engagement is announced between Neil, elder son of Mr and Mrs Frank Gall, of Aberdeen, and Selina, younger daughter of the late Sandy Mason and of Mrs Maggie Mason, of Crockham Hill, Kent.

Mr H.J. Gilbey and Miss I.M. Clegg
The engagement is announced between Henry, eldest son of the Hon Michael and Mrs Gilbey, of Hambleden, Oxfordshire, and Islay, daughter of Mr William and the Hon Mrs Clegg, of Ipsden, Oxfordshire.

Mr N.A. Morgan and Miss P.C. Gunn
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, younger son of Mr John Morgan, of Northchapel, Sussex, and Mrs Rosemary Macarthur, of Edinburgh, and Petronella, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Paul Gunn, of Chiddingfold, Surrey.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit Ballater, Aberdeenshire, at 2.20, to meet members of the community. The Queen will unveil plaques, marking the rebuilding of Ballater Bridge in 1885, at 2.40.
The Queen will visit Tarland and meet members of the community at 3.10. Later, The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit Alastrean House, an RAF retirement home supported by the MacRobert Trust, at Tarland at 3.25; will visit Douneside House, a MacRobert Trust holiday centre for service officers, and will watch a fly-past by an RAF Tornado (MacRobert's Reply) at 3.55.

Luncheon

Rotary Club of London
Mr John Buchanan, President of the Rotary Club of London, was in the chair at a luncheon held yesterday at the Portman Hotel. Sir Kenneth Calman was the speaker.

Marriages

Mr R.A. Fenton-Stone and Miss F.V. Davis
The marriage took place on August 22, at The Church of St John the Baptist, Somersham, of Robert, only son of Mr Michael Stone, of Ravensden, and Mrs Margaret Stone, of Hexham, and Faye, daughter of Mr and Mrs Terry Davis, of Somersham.
A reception was held at the Dolphin Hotel, St Ives, Cambridgeshire, and the honeymoon is being spent in Australia and Fiji.

Mr M.A. Hodkinson and Miss V.M. Mann
The marriage took place in The Chapel of Hertford College, Oxford, of Mark, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Hodkinson, of Brisbane, Queensland, and Victoria, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs David Mann, of Penzance, Cornwall. The Rev Michael Chantry officiated.
A reception was held at The Orangery, Blenheim Palace.

Mr A. Melling and Miss M.R. Brierley
The marriage took place on Friday, July 31, at Bamford Chapel, Rochdale, between Mr Al Melling and Miss Margaret Rose Brierley. The Rev David Wiseman officiated.
The bride was attended by her niece, Miss Katie Dixon. Mr Jonathan Brierley was best man.
A reception was held at Manderley, home of the bridegroom.

Mr H.D. Page Croft and Mrs G.M. Wynn-Jones
The marriage took place on Saturday, September 5, in Hertfordshire, between Hugo Page Croft and Maud Wynn-Jones, of Anglesey.

Mr P.C.N. Stewart and Miss A. Bharucha
The marriage took place on Friday, August 28, 1998, in Belfast, Northern Ireland, between Peter Charles Nicholas Stewart and Anita Bharucha.

School announcements

The Arts Educational School, Tring Park
The Autumn Term begins today at The Arts Educational School, Tring Park. The Musical Theatre show Half a Sixpence will be performed on November 9-13. The school Carol Service is on December 6 and 7 and term finishes after the service on December 7.

Benenden School
Term starts today at Benenden School. Sixth Form Scholarship and Entry Examinations for September 1999 will take place on November 11 and 12. Open mornings for parents of prospective students will be held on September 19, October 3 and November 21. The Founders' Lecture: Women on the Edge will be given by Mrs Ruth Cox on September 13. The Jubilee Service of Thanksgiving will take place in St Paul's Cathedral on Thursday, September 17 at 2.30pm (entry by ticket only, apply Jubilee Office, Benenden School). This is the first event in a year of celebration for 75 years of Benenden School. There will be a Seniors' Decade Lunch at Benenden School for 1960s Seniors on October 1, for 1920s/30s Seniors on October 17, and for 1970s Seniors on November 4. There will be an Advent Service for Seniors at School on November 30.

Birkdale School, Sheffield
The school year begins today, with 810 pupils in the school. Robert Court, MA, has now taken up his post as Head Master. Andrew Low is Head of School. Senior School Speech Day is on September 28 when the Guest of Honour will be Mr Stephen Baldock, High Master of St Paul's School, London. Performances of The Taming of the Shrew will be given in the Heeley Hall on December 9, 10 and 11, and the Senior School Carol Service is in Ecclesall Parish Church on December 15, when the Preacher will be Rev Mike Breen, Team Rector of St Thomas, Crookes. Open Days are on November 7 (Senior School), and October 17 (Preparatory School).

Blundell's School
The Autumn Term opens at Blundell's on September 9. There will be 470 pupils in the School. Thornton House reopens as a day girls' house with Mrs S.J. Rumble as Housemistress. Mr P.H. Gordon becomes the Housemaster of Westlake. Considerable progress has been made on the Library/Resources Centre and the appeal has now raised £560,000. The Heads of School are Fiona Kingdon (NC) and Gavin Bishop (FH) whilst Gavin Larsen (FH) is Captian of Rugby. The School Play, Brecht's Caucasian Chalk Circle is on November 18-20 and the end of term concert will be performed on December 11. Term concludes on December 18 with the Carol Service after which the Choir will go on Tour in France. There will be an Open Morning on September 19 and further details are available from the Registrars (01884 252543).

Charterhouse
The Oration Quarter begins today. Mr Nicholas Durkin takes up his appointment as Clerk to the Governing Body and Bursar. The Rev John Page (Chaplain) and Mr James Spencer (History) join Brooke Hall. Tim Burke-Murphy is Head of School and Angeline Abbott Head Girl. Pedro Leal is Captain of Football and Sophie Burton Captain of Lacrosse. There will be an Open Afternoon for 1999 entry girls on Saturday, September 26 at 2.15pm. A Gaudy will be held at the School on Saturday, October 17 for those who left between 1963 and 1969. The Sir Robert Birley Memorial Lecture will be given by Mr John Keegan, OBE, on Wednesday, November 18. Mr James Noble will preach at the Remembrance Sunday Service on November 8. The Founder's Day Service and Dinner will be held at the London Charterhouse on Wednesday, December 9. Exeat is from Friday, October 23 to Sunday, November 1. The Quarter ends on Saturday, December 12.

Downe House, Berkshire
The Michaelmas Term starts today and will end after the final Carol Service at St Nicholas's Church, Newbury on Saturday, December 11. Head Senior is Maria von Weissenberg and Deputy Head Senior is Lucia Labouchere. Girls taking up academic scholarships are Joanna Knights (St Hilary's, Godalming), Alicia Meinertzhagen (Lady Eden's, London), Isabel Cronk (Glendower Preparatory School, London), Emily Colville (Norland Place, London), Claire Hopwood (Downe House). Girls taking up Music Exhibitions are Taleri Bankes (Arden House, Choyd), Hannah Fothergill (The Manor, Abingdon), Clare Robson (Francis Holland, London), Jaya Madvhani (St Christopher's, London) and Rebecca Harvell (St Mary's, Shaftesbury). Girls will be moving into the New Boarding House of Ancren Gate South. Assessment days for 11+, 12+, 13+ will be held on October 1-2 and 8-9. The Sixth Form Entrance Examination will take place on Monday, November 9.

Edgehill College, Devon
Term begins today. The Head Pupil is Rose Hungate, with Victoria Hoyle and Jayne Symons as her deputies. Prize Day wil be held on Saturday, September 26, when the guest speaker will be Brian Frederick, Secretary to the Trustees of The Schools Curriculum Award. On Saturday, October 17 there will be an Open Morning for prospective pupils and their parents: the Annual Dinner for former Edgehillians will be held in the evening. Edgehill's production of The Tempest is on Tuesday, November 24. The Prep School's Carol Service will be held on Friday, December 11 and the Senior Carol Service on Tuesday, December 15. Term ends on Wednesday, December 16.

The Godolphin School
The Autumn Term begins on Wednesday, September 9, 1998. Francesca Boys is Head Girl and Catherine Trembath is her deputy. We welcome all past pupils to Commem at the School on Saturday, September 19 and to the Commem Service in Westminster Abbey at 4.30pm on Saturday, November 7 in the Henry VII Chapel. Term ends after the Carol Service to be held in Salisbury Cathedral at 11.00pm on Wednesday, December 16.

The John Lyon School, Harrow
The Autumn Term starts today and ends on Friday, December 18. The Charity Concert is on Saturday, October 3 and Carol Concert on Thursday, December 17. The School Play on December 3-5 will be Our Country's Good by Timberlake Wertenbaker. Open Morning is on Saturday, October 10, 9.30am — noon.

King's College School, Wimbledon
Term begins on Wednesday, September 9 at King's College School. Mr John Evans takes up the post of Headmaster of the Junior School following the retirement, after 22 years in the post, of Mr Colin Holloway. Mr Mark James joins him as Deputy Headmaster. Mr Kevin Hawney has been appointed Senior Master (Pastoral) and Dr Christopher Ray Senior Master (Academic). Messrs Ralph Cake, Robert Gullifer, Paul Keyte and Miss McKissack undertake the new roles of Undermasters. Mr Alan Thomas has been appointed Housemaster of Kingsley, Miss Rosamund Davis has been appointed Housemaster of Layton and Mr Michael Chambers has been appointed Housemaster of Major. Mr Mark Allen becomes Director of College Court. The Rev Sarah Robbins-Cole joins the School as Chaplain. The Captain of School is Nicholas Bianco and the Vice-Captain is Oliver Rawlins. The Captain of Rugby is Mark Hopkins. The Chamber Choir will sing Evensong at Winchester Cathedral on September 24 and the Gaudy for Old Boys who left between 1975 and 1979 is on September 26. The school musical The Boys from Syracuse will be performed on November 24-27. The Christmas choral concerts will be at St Martin-in-the-Fields on December 5 and term will end with the Carol Service at Guildford Cathedral on December 18.

King's School, Rochester
Michaelmas Term at King's School, Rochester, begins today. N. Velamati will be Head of School. B.C. Bourne, C.A.A. Janz and E.C. Smith will be Vice Heads of School. Mr Ian Rouse joins us as Deputy Head of the Preparatory School, Mrs Caroline Lawson will be Head of Classics. Mr Michael Parkinson joins us as Teacher of History, Mlle Béatrice Cloarec will be Teacher of Modern Languages. Miss Nicola Rigby will be Teacher of Girls' Games and Mrs Margaret Malsher and Mrs Hilary Pemberton will be Class Teachers at the Pre-Preparatory School. Commemoration Day is on Saturday, 12 September and the service in the Cathedral is at 11.00am.

Kingston Grammar School
Term begins today with the new School Captain, Jonathan Alexander, and Vice Captains Lindy Greaves and Jamie Bottomley. Miss Deborah Williams takes over as Head of Sixth Form and six new members of staff join the school this term, including Mr Carl Jackson who will be the new Director of Music. The new Information and Communication Technology Centre was completed during the summer holiday and will be opened at 8.00pm on Tuesday, September 15 by the Mayor of Kingston upon Thames. An Open Evening for prospective pupils and parents will be held on Wednesday, October 14 from 6.30pm. There will be a special A-Level Forum for prospective Sixth Form students at 7.30pm on Wednesday, October 21. The Old Kingstonian Annual Dinner will take place on Friday, November 6 in the school, and Prizegiving is on Friday, November 20 at 8.00pm in the Parish Church of All Saints, when the principal guest will be the Hon Michael Beloff, QC. A production of Our Country's Good by Timberlake Wertenbaker will take place on December 10, 11 and 12 and the Festival of Lessons and Carols will be held in St James's Church, New Malden at 8.00pm on Thursday, December 17. Term ends on Friday, December 18.

The Lady Eleanor Holles School Hampton, Middlesex
Full term began on Thursday, September 3 with 910 girls in the school. The Head Girl is Charlotte Woolley and her Deputies are Karen Mann and Gemma Palmer. Mrs Jennifer Cowper has taken up her post as Head of the Junior Department at Burlington House. The Half Term holiday is from Monday, October 19 until Friday, October 30. The Sixth Form Entrance Examination will be held this year on Saturday, November 14. The Junior Carol Service will take place on December 11 and the Senior Carol Service on December 14. Term ends on Wednesday, December 16.

Latymer Upper School, W6
The Autumn Term begins today at Latymer Upper School, and ends on December 16. Prize Giving is on October 23 when the Main Guest will be Sir Peter Hall, and Founders Day will be November 20. Alex Kiehl is School Captain, with Rhiannon Phillips and Jack Roberts as Vice Captains. Joel Livings is Captain of Rugby, Mark Hughes Captain of Boats and Martin Coward Captain of Soccer. The Autumn Concert is on November 26, the Gild Production will be on December 10, 11 and 12, the Carol Concert is on December 15 and the Old Latymerians Dinner on November 27 when Sir John Killick will be the Main Guest. Details on Admissions procedures and Open Days are available from the Registrar, on 0181 741 1851.

Moira House, Eastbourne
Christmas Term begins today and ends on Tuesday, December 15. Mr David Ingham joins us on October 1 as Bursar in succession to Mr Adrian Underwood who has been appointed National Director of The Boarding Schools Association from January 1, 1999. Miss Martine Hattersley is our new Reception Class teacher and Mrs Stephanie Huxley joins us as a member of the Drama Department. Mrs Zoe Martin has been appointed as Personal Assistant to Mrs Ann Harris, the Principal. Katherine Mellor and Leonie Watson continue as School Knights and Andrea Bailey, Aneesha Bhunjun, Nicola Dyer, Kate Enefer, Beth Gibson, Jennifer Rowe, Claire Smalley, Amber Walder and Vanja Willis continue as Standard Bearers. Open House is being held on Saturday, October 17. The Senior Drama Production of Twelfth Night will be staged on the evenings of December 3, 4 and 5. The term concludes with the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 12, the Annual Service of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday 13 at All Saints Church and a Farewell Lunch and Dinner for Adrian Underwood as he leaves after over 23 years.

Monkton Combe School
The Michaelmas Term at Monkton Combe School begins today. The Senior Prefect will be Jonathan Quayle. Prizegiving is on October 24; the prizes will be presented by Major-General Sir Philip Ward, KCVO, CBE. He will also open the Knight Sports Centre. The Knight Lecture on November 19 will be given by Lord Alexander of Weedon, QC. The Advent Carol Service in Bath Abbey is on December 16.

Northbourne Park Preparatory School, Kent
The Autumn Term began on Monday, September 7. Naomi Burrell is Head of School. Mr Martin O'Grady takes over as Head of Boarding. Mrs Julie Lowe as pre-prep co-ordinator. We also welcome Mr Karl Whittick (Director of Sport and our new Leadership and Personal Development programme). Mrs Jean Liston (Director of Languages), and Mrs Joyce Turner. The end of term carol service will take place at St George's Church, Deal at 11am on December 12.

Northamptonshire Grammar School
The Christmas Term began on Tuesday, September 2 with George Osborne as Head Boy and Andrew Stanton as Deputy Head Boy. This year's Jackson Scholar is Tyler Jensen from Utah. Speech Day will take place on Saturday, September 19 when Professor Bob Taylor, vice-chancellor of the University of Buckingham will present the prizes. On October 1, Baroness Thatcher, LG, OM, FRS, will open the Sunley Science and Technology Centre. The Open Morning for all prospective parents is November 7. The Senior School Entrance Examination will take place on Saturday, November 21. The term will end with a carol service at St Matthew's Church on Friday, December 11. Past pupils and parents wishing to attend should telephone: 01604-880306 or email:
Office@ngs.northants.sch.uk

The Portsmouth Grammar School
Term begins today at The Portsmouth Grammar School. Mr Paul Smith, formerly Head of Science at Haileybury College, becomes Second Master. Mrs J.V. Cresswell-Hogg, Mrs C. Giles, Mr R. Thornton and Mrs W.M. Taylor become Senior Teachers. The school's partnership initiative The Dickens of a City will be launched on Monday, September 14 in the Dickens Birthplace Museum by the Lord Mayor, the IBM IT Suite will be opened by the Right Hon Chris Smith, MP, on Monday, September 21. Prizegiving will be held in the Cathedral on Monday, September 28 at 7.30pm: the Guest of Honour is the Second Sea Lord, Admiral Sir John Brigstocke. On Armistice Day, November 11, the school choir with strings from the Bournemouth Sinfonietta will perform Fauré's Requiem in the Cathedral. Amy Dymock is Senior Prefect; Gregory Sanderson and Joseph Mardell are Deputies. Term ends with the Cathedral Carol Service on Friday, December 18.

Reed's School
Autumn Term begins today. Akshay Dosaj will be Captain of School and James Smith Vice Captain of School. Open Mornings will be held on October 3 and November 14 and the Annual Foundation Appeal will be launched at Grocers' Hall on Wednesday, October 14 under the presidency of Sir John Riddell, Bt. Term ends on Sunday, December 13 after the School Carol Service in Guildford Cathedral.

The Royal Hospital School
Autumn term begins today. The Heads of School are Neil Whitaker and Joanna Chatterton. The Second Sea Lord, Admiral Sir John Brigstocke, will pay an official visit to the School on Tuesday, September 29. The new artificial hockey pitch will be opened by the School Visitor, The Duke of York, on Friday, October 16. The Corps of Drums will perform in the Painted Hall at Greenwich on October 21 and the choir will sing in the Annual Seafarers' Service at St Paul's on October 14. Both Choir and Band will perform at the Annual Christmas Concert for the Missions to Seamen at Merchant Taylor's Hall on December 10.

School of S Mary and S Anne, Abbots Bromley
Michaelmas Term began yesterday for boarders under the headship of Mrs Mary Steel, BA MI Mgt. Installation Service for Mrs Steel as new Head: School Chapel 11.15am Sunday, September 20. Guild Meeting/Luncheon September 12; Calrossy School NSW hockey tour September 30 — October 3. 125th Anniversary Concert of Woodard Midland Division 7.30pm October 16 Lichfield Cathedral; School Bazaar November 28; December 6 3.30pm Carols in the Round. Term ends following Carol Service Saturday, December 12.

St Dunstan's College
The Michaelmas Term starts today at St Dunstan's College. The Head of School is Richard Mitchell and the Captain of Rugby Laurence Reeve. Prize-giving will be held on September 22 and the guest of honour is Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare. The Senior School play Twelfth Night will be performed from November 25 to 27, and the Michaelmas Concert on November 10. Old Dunstonian Luncheons will be held this term in Kent and Wessex.

Wycombe Abbey School
The Autumn Term at Wycombe Abbey School begins on Wednesday, September 9. Mrs Pauline Davies assumes the post of Head Mistress. The Confirmation Service will be taken by the Bishop of Buckingham on Sunday, November 15 at 3.00pm in All Saints' Parish Church. The Seniors' Carol Service will be at 5.45pm on Sunday, December 13; tea for Seniors will be served at 4.30pm in Big School. The Seniors' Association Annual General meeting will be held at 3.00pm on Saturday, September 19 at Wycombe Abbey. Applications from external candidates for places in the Sixth Form in September 1999 should be made now to the Academic Registrar, Wycombe Abbey School, High Wycombe HP11 1PE. Applications for Junior School Scholarships in 1999 should be made to the Academic Registrar by December 4, 1998.
Wycombe Abbey School (Charity No. 310638) promotes the education of girls.

Anniversaries today

BIRTHS: King Richard I, reigned 1189-99, Oxford, 1157; Ludovico Ariosto, poet, Reggio Emilia, Italy, 1474; August Wilhelm von Schlegel, poet, Hanover, 1767; John Leyden, physician and poet, Denholm, Borders, 1775; Leon Faucher, statesman, Limoges, 1803; Frederic Mistral, poet, Nobel laureate 1904, Maillane, near Avignon, France, 1830; Antonin Dvorak, composer, Nelahozeves, Czechoslovakia, 1841; W.W. Jacobs, short story writer, Wapping, 1863; Alfred Jarry, writer, Laval, France, 1873; Siegfried Sassoon, poet and novelist, Brenchley, Kent, 1886; Hendrik Verwoerd, President of South Africa 1958-66, Amsterdam, 1901; Peter Sellers, actor, Southsea, 1925.
DEATHS: Francis Quarles, poet, London, 1644; Francisco Gomez de Querado y Villegas, poet, Suenos, Spain, 1645; Ann Lee, founder of the American sect of Shakers, Watervliet, New York, 1784; George Bradshaw, originator of railway guides, Christiana, Norway, 1853; Hermann von Helmholtz, inventor of the ophthalmoscope, Charlottenburg, Germany, 1894; Faisal I, King of Iraq 1921-33, Berne, 1933; Richard Strauss, composer, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, 1949; André Derain, painter, Garches, France, 1954; Keith Moon, rock drummer, London, 1978.
Johannesburg was founded, 1886.
The first V-2 missiles landed in Britain, 1944.
Richard Nixon, former American President, was pardoned by President Ford for the alleged offences in the Watergate affair, 1974.

Appointments

Lord Vestey has been appointed Master of the Horse from January 1, 1999, upon the retirement of Lord Somerleyton.

Mr John Macgregor has been appointed Ambassador to Poland from October in succession to Mr Christopher Hum who will be moving to a new diplomatic appointment.

Mr Francis Cornish has been appointed Ambassador to Israel from October in succession to Mr David Manning who will be moving to a new diplomatic appointment.

Caroline Vaughan is to be a Commissioner of the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 and a member of the Board of Management.

Appointments in the RAF

GROUP CAPTAIN: P.P.V. Gaskin - MOD, 1.9.98; P.M. Miles - MOD, 1.9.98; A. Devtrikh - MOD Abbey-ood, 4.9.98; T.J. Beney - HQ STC, 4.9.98.

WING COMMANDER: R. Ashenurst - MOD LDN, 1.9.98; I. Pallister - RAFC Cranwell, 1.9.98; J.E. Abra - HQ LC Brampton, 1.9.98; S.J. Taylor - Shape Int Staff, 2.9.98; D.E. Eighteen - HQ LC Brampton, 7.9.98; D.R. Smith - MOD LDN, 7.9.98; G.S. Evans - HQ LC Brampton, 7.9.98.

Retirements
GROUP CAPTAIN: D.D. Allan, 31.8.98.

Church news

The Rev Suzie Ellis, NSM Curate, South Elmham and Ilketshall (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich): has been appointed Curate, Worlingham w Barnby and North Cove, and Beccles (same diocese).
The Rev Dr Malcolm Guite, Team Vicar, Huntingdon (Ely): to be Chaplain, Anglia Polytechnic (same diocese).
The Rev David Kent, NSM Assistant Curate, Huddersfield St Peter and All Saints (Wakefield): to be NSM Assistant Curate, Newsome and Armitage Bridge (same diocese).
The Rev Caroline King, NSM, Wheatley (Oxford): to be Assistant Curate, same benefice (same diocese).

PERSONAL COLUMN

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

But from you, Bethlehem in Ephrathah, small as you are among Judah's clans, from you will come a king for me over Israel, one whose origins are far back in the past. Micah 5 : 2

BIRTHS

BUCKENHAM - See Fraser.

CONGREVE - On September 3rd to Amanda (née Lawson) and Ralph, a beautiful daughter, Honor Frances Caroline, a sister for Fleur.

CUTBILL - On Sunday 6th September 1998 to Susan (née van Wyk) and Charles, a son Oliver Richard.

FLEMING - On 4th September 1998 at the Royal Free Hampstead to Mireille (née Douerin) and Peter, twin sons, Piers and Yann, brothers to our daughter Solène.

FRASER - On August 14th to Joanna and Simon, a son, Robert Campbell Buckenham, a brother for Charlie and Ben.

GLENCROSS - On September 3rd at The Portland Hospital to Amy and Niel, a daughter, Ashli Rose Carter.

GOULDE - On September 3rd at The Portland Hospital to Dawn and Jack, a son, Thomas Joseph, a brother to Philippa, Max and Zoë.

HORNOR - On September 1st, to Rebecca (née Kinnear) and Charles, a fine son, Bassett Henry Kinnear.

HUTCHINSON - On September 2nd to Fiona (née Trounson) and Mark, a daughter, Rowena Philippa Louise, a sister for Isabelle and Tessa.

LANKESTER - On August 30th at The Portland Hospital to Jo and Brett, a son, Robert William White.

LYLES - On Friday, September 4th, 1998, to Kelly (née Tompkins) and Christopher, a son, John Henry (Jack), a brother for James.

MARCUS - On 4th September 1998 to Mary (née Leslie) and Robert, a daughter Rosie.

McALPINE - On September 6th at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to James and Heather, a daughter, Melissa Abigail Nicola.

PORTMAN - On September 1st at The Portland Hospital to Lucy, and Piers, a beautiful daughter, Willow Isabella.

STAMATIOU-MERAKLIS - On September 5th at The Portland Hospital to Niki Santiktsi and Apostolis, a son, Constantine.

STEELE - On September 2nd at The Portland Hospital to Hilary (née Strong) and Tim, a son, Cameron.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

WALTON-MORRIS - On September 8th 1948 in London Kenneth to Cynthia. They give thanks for 50 wonderful years together.

DEATHS

BARNWELL - Charles John Patrick, aged 84, peacefully at home in Fivehead on September 4th, 1998. Husband of the late Betty and father of Patrick and the late Robin. Private cremation. Thanksgiving Service at St. Andrew's, Curry Rivel on Friday, September 11th at 3 pm. Donations, in lieu of flowers, to the Royal British Legion, Curry Rivel. C/o Forsey and Son, Pound Pool, Somerton, TA11 6LZ.

BREWER - Rear Admiral GMK CB, died suddenly at his home in Emsworth on Saturday September 5th. Dearly beloved husband of Mary. A funeral service will be held at 10am in St Ann's Church, HM Naval Base, Portsmouth on Monday September 14th followed by private interment.

BRYSON - John Birrell, suddenly at home on September 3rd aged 60 years. General Manager of The Metro Centre, Gateshead. Beloved husband of Rowena, and much loved father of Andrew, Lindsay and Ali. He will be greatly missed. Funeral service to be held at St Bartholomews Church, Kirkwhelpington on Thursday September 10th at 11am. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to North of England Cancer Research Campaign, 19 Saville Row, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 8JE. All enquiries to Co-op Funeral Services, Hexham. Tel: 01434 600119.

CAMPBELL - Catherine, widow of Alastair peacefully on 3rd September in Camberley (formerly Ord House). Burial at Beaulieu Cemetery, Hampshire at 2.30 on 14th September.

CAWSTON - Ted. Died peacefully on September 5th, aged 87. Beloved husband of the late Netta, much loved father of Virginia and Prue and grandfather of Christopher, Michael, David and Louise. A former headmaster of Orwell Park School, Suffolk. Funeral at Vinters Park Crematorium, Bearsted Road, Maidstone, Kent on Friday 11th September at 10.00am. Flowers to Doves Funerals, 1 Knightrider Street, Maidstone. Tel: 01622 688662.

COOPER - Mary, aged 80, beloved wife of John and mother of Ian, peacefully on 6th September at Greenwich and Bexley Cottage Hospice. Funeral Service at Eltham Crematorium, Crown Woods Way, SE9, on Monday 14th September at 11.00am. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to above named hospice via Francis Chappell and Sons, 5 Thomas Street, Woolwich, SE18 6HL.

DAVIES - Paul Frederick, beloved husband of Jane, passed away suddenly on 2nd September 1998. Funeral Service on Friday 11th September 1998, at St. Peter's and The English Martyrs Church, Lower Gornal, Dudley, West Midlands at 1.45pm, followed by interment at Gornal Wood Cemetery. No flowers by request, donations if desired to British Heart Foundation, c/o JR Jones Funeral Directors, Lake Street, Lower Gornal, Dudley.

DICK - John. On September 3rd aged 67, peacefully after a short time in hospital. Much loved husband of the late Judy, father of John, Simon, Alex and Michael, brother of Donald and grandfather of Hugh, Joseph, Christopher, Judy and James. Funeral at Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, Boundary Road, Newark on Thursday September 10th at 10.00am. No flowers please, donations to The British Heart Foundation.

DUTKIEWICZ - Ryszard Karol, died on Friday September 4th after a long illness bravely borne.

FISHER - On 1st September peacefully in hospital, Henry beloved husband and father. Funeral Service at St. Anne's Church, Tottington, Bury, Lancs. today Tuesday 8th September at 12.00 noon. All enquiries to Unsworth's Funeral Service, Cooper Street, Bury, BL9 0LJ. Tel. 0161 764 3622.

HICKMAN - Phyllis on September 5th, peacefully at home in Chelsea Green. Much loved by her family and friends. Private funeral, family flowers only, donations if desired to Help the Aged.

HIGNETT - Michael. On September 4th at Leicester General Hospital after a sudden stroke, aged 69 years. Devoted husband of Mella and wonderfully generous father to Rupert, Charlotte and Edward. Will be so missed by his many friends and family. Service of Thanksgiving to be held at All Saints Church, Clipston, on Friday 11th September at 3.00 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if wished to The Hunt Servants Benevolent Fund or All Saints Church, Clipston, c/o J. Stamp & Sons, Funeral Directors, The Chestnuts, 15 Kettering Road, Market Harborough, Leics. LE16 8AN. Tel: 01858 462524.

HOWIE - On September 4th, 1998, at West Cornwall Hospital, Penzance, Thomas Wilson Turnbull, MRCVS, aged 78 years. Much loved and sadly missed by his family and friends. Funeral service at Penmount Crematorium, Truro on Friday, September 11th, at 2.20pm. Flowers to Alfred Smith & Son, 31 Clarence Street, Penzance, (01736) 362592.

KEMBALL - On 4th September, 1998, at home, Professor Charles Kemball C.B.E. F.R.S., much loved and loving husband of Kay, devoted father of Mary, Alan, and Heather, and a proud grandfather. Funeral at Mortonhall Crematorium, Edinburgh, on Friday 11th September at 11 am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to St. Columba's Hospice, Boswall Road, Edinburgh.

KINSKY - Alfy, on 2nd September 1998, in Switzerland in his 86th year. Beloved husband for 45 years of Monique; father of Cyril and Marie Pauline; father-in-law of Natasha and Donald Mackinnon, and eight lovely grandchildren. Funeral private, Requiem Mass in London to be announced later.

KOOLMAN - Alexander, RP, RBA, of Elmwood Road, Chiswick, died peacefully on September 4th at The Bethany. Funeral service at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium, on Monday 14th September at 2.30pm. Family flowers. Donations welcomed by Hospice-in-the-Weald, c/o Kempsters 2-4 Albion Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

MAGUIRE - Lilian Joan. Dearly beloved wife of Waldo Maguire OBE. Dear mother of Michael, Kevin, Brendan, and Terry. Peacefully on 2nd September 1998. Will be much missed by her sister Kathleen, daughters-in-law, grandchildren, family and friends. Funeral Service at Ruislip Methodist Church, Sharps Lane, Ruislip, on Monday 14th September at 1.30 pm followed by burial at Northwood Cemetery. Family flowers only please, but donations, if desired to Cancer Research Campaign c/o E. Spark Ltd., 104 Pinner Road, Northwood, Middlesex, HA6 1BS. Tel. 01923 825372.

MAPLES - Bryan Ashley aged 92. Devoted husband of Cherry and beloved father and grandfather, died suddenly but peacefully with his family on September 4th. Private cremation followed by a Thanksgiving Service at Preshute Church, Bath Road, Marlborough, Wiltshire at 3.00pm on Monday September 14th to which all are welcome. Family flowers only. All enquiries to Thomas Free and Son. 01672 512110.

MAWBY - Tracey, aged 27, following sudden death: funeral at Palgrave Parish Church, Suffolk, Friday 11th September at 3.00pm. Friends welcome.

MELVIN - Verna Winifred Sylvia, née Sage, peacefully on September 5th 1998, aged 89 years, widow of Charles Melvin and loving mother of John and Sylvia (deceased), and grandmother of Lucy and Charles. Funeral service at St John's Parish Church, Burford, Oxfordshire at 12.30pm on Wednesday September 9th.

MOLD - Barbara Elizabeth Honor Leslie in her 91st year, very peacefully at Barnham Manor Nursing Home on 6th September 1998. Wife of the late Brigadier Gilbert (Dick) Leslie Mold, and only child of the late Sir Hugh and Lady Crosthwaite of India. Funeral service at Chichester Crematorium on Monday 21st September at 2.00 pm. No flowers by request but donations if desired to your chosen charity. Any enquiries to Reynolds Funeral Service. Tel: 01243 864745.

NAYLOR - James (Jim), on Monday September 7th, quietly at home in Sunningdale. He will be sadly missed by his family and all his friends at home and abroad. For funeral arrangements please contact F. Harrison and Son F/D (01784 433163).

NUNN - Daphne Grace, widow of C. Stuart Nunn and much loved mother of Tony, John and Ginnie, grandmother of Fiona, Amanda, David, Julian, Michael, Stacey and Jason, great-grandmother of Rosie and Bonnie - on September 2nd peacefully at Warminster. Funeral Service at Haycombe Cemetery, Whiteway, Bath, Thursday September 10th at 10.00am. No flowers please, but if wished donations to Imperial Cancer Research Fund in memory of John. Memorial Service to be held later.

ROCK - Barbara, beloved wife, mother, friend and colleague, died on 3rd September at the Royal Free Hospital. Her funeral will be held at 3.30 on 10th September at the Golders Green Crematorium, Hoop Lane, London, NW11.

SCHRAM - Ralph, passed away peacefully on 4th September. Funeral 2.00pm, on 14th September, Christ Church, Totland Bay. No flowers, but donations to Tear Fund please.

SEGAL - Dennis, died peacefully on September 5th, aged 86. Will be sadly missed by family and friends. Cremation at Downs Crematorium, Brighton, September 10th, 3.00pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired, to Cottage Homes, Marshall Estate, Hammer Lane, London NW7.

STUART - Alexander George (Alan), on September 6th, in his 93rd year, peacefully at home. Loving, and much loved by, his family and friends. Funeral Eucharist at Norwich Cathedral on Friday September 11th at 2.00pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations to The Norfolk and Norwich Association for the Blind, and The Norfolk Deaf Association, c/o Peter Taylor Ltd., 85 Unthank Road, Norwich, NR2 2PE.

TURNBULL - George Grant T.D., C. St.J. a month before his 88th birthday after a short illness at Grantown-on-Spey. Beloved husband of Inge and a dearly loved father of Antonia. Funeral service on September 10th at 1.30 pm from Inverallan Church Grantown-on-Spey. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to Cross Roads c/o Bank of Scotland Aviemore.

WARDE-JONES - Hubert William suddenly on August 29th aged 90 years. Loving husband of Jean and father of Antony and Christopher and grandfather of Julian and Daniel. Will be sadly missed. Funeral service on Saturday September 12th at Amersham Crematorium 11.00am.

WILSON - Colonel Alastair Robert, died peacefully on September 1st 1998. Funeral to be held at All Saints Church, Wribbenhall, Bewdley, Worcs, on Thursday September 10th at 2.15pm followed by a private cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations may be made to All Saints Church, Wribbenhall, c/o B. Ince, Funeral Directors, 8 Severn Side South, Bewdley, Worcs DY12 2DX. Tel: 01299 403105.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

de WINTON - A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Mr Charles de Winton CBE will be held at the Roman Catholic Church, Burford, SS John Fisher and Thomas More, on Saturday 3rd October at 2.00pm.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

FROST - Richard, 1992. Remembered always with love.

McGOWAN - Henry. Died 8 September 1948. Bishop of Wakefield, 1946-48; previously Archdeacon and Vicar of Aston, Birmingham. Husband of the late Nora (née Godwin); father of Bruce Henry and the late David Keith. Remembered with love and pride.

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OBITUARIES

GERALD LITTLEWOOD

Gerald Littlewood, first Director of Music of Chetham's School of Music, Manchester, died on September 1 aged 70. He was born on September 7, 1927.



Littlewood at his workbench: the instruments he made combined fine craftsmanship with purity of tone

When Gerald Littlewood joined the small team of teachers striving to re-establish the Manchester Bluecoat school of Chetham's Hospital shortly after the war, no one could have foreseen that the venture would subsequently develop into the internationally renowned Chetham's School of Music.

The Manchester teaching post was Gerald Littlewood's first after completing his own education at Audenshaw Grammar School and Loughborough Training College. At the time, music was only a hobby for him, though always and increasingly a passionate one, and he was in fact appointed to Chetham's as a resident art and handicrafts master.

The school boasts some of the finest architecture in Manchester, some of it 15th-century. But its site near the city centre is narrowly hemmed in by the railway station and the cathedral, and by a constant stream of traffic. Until a not too distant sports ground eventually became available, there was no opportunity for the games which foster team spirit in other schools. In their absence, music became an important part of life at Chetham's, a creative activity capable of providing a social cement in many ways more potent than the competitive ethos of the sportsfield, and one where growing success brought its own access of pride.

In the early days the staff was a mere trio, with only a handful of pupils, and Littlewood was for some time a lone figure in the musical life of the school, which lacked even a resident pianist. Gradually, however, he won the interest and support of his colleagues, of the cathedral organist Norman Cocker, and of an enterprising body of governors.

Starting with a few violins (he was himself a violinist), he went on to establish a full orchestra. Music festivals followed, and before long the music being made at Chetham's was attracting the attention of the outside world, particularly of local authorities and their music advisers. In 1969, two decades after the school was reopened, Chetham's declared itself a school of music.

Littlewood was a craftsman who never had time to seek out a sheaf of paper qualifications in music. Instead he used his manual skills to make his own stringed instruments (only the double bass escaped his attention). He was also capable of making convincing essays in playing virtually any orchestral instrument — and for a time he had to do just that, until external tutors (from the Hallé and the then BBC Northern Orchestra) were cajoled into giving the school the benefit of their expertise. As well as a talented instrumental player, Littlewood was a considerable singer and took the greatest pride in his choral work.

The school, in response to the changing educational imperatives of the time, had already cleared one hurdle by becoming a full-scale grammar school, with serious aspirations in the arts and sciences. Now it set about tackling another, by using its accumulated expertise to become a dedicated school of music, preparing pupils for specialist further study at the universities and music colleges.

Littlewood's efforts received notable support from the headmaster, Harry Vickers, who, although no musician himself, yet had the necessary vision and drive to steer the school through its most difficult period of transition.

The school had shown itself capable of mounting complete productions of Britten's church parables, and the smaller-scale stage works of Stravinsky — with Littlewood more often than not accounting for scenery and production as well as conducting. Soon pupils began to go on to professional musical careers. Among the many who have attained distinction are the pianist Peter Donohoe; the mezzo-soprano Louise Winter; the organist and conductor Wayne Marshall; and David Hill, now Master of Music at Winchester Cathedral.

With his official appointment as the school's first director of music, Littlewood found that his original art and craft work had to give way to the endless demands of performance, administration, teaching, auditioning and even composition. But he never abandoned his dedication to the crafting of stringed instruments, and he showed rare skill in combining the demands of aesthetics with eloquence of tone and finesse of construction.

For all his artistry, he found artistic pretensions quite alien and abhorrent. Not for him the pained exclamation of one music tutor that "I am not a teacher! I am an *artiste!*" In his case it would have been exactly the other way round.

When he retired to the North Wales coast, it was to take infinite, even naive, pleasure in the local manifestations of Gilbert and Sullivan, the music of pier pavilion and brass band and salon singer, as much as in the chamber music he so enjoyed until the weakness induced by cancer made it impossible for him to continue.

He had a phenomenal memory for names and people, able to conjure up at an instant the faces, characters and exploits of his pupils over the years, and he kept in touch with the progress of most of them.

He is survived by his wife Audrey, and by a daughter and a stepson. His voice will continue to sound through the instruments he made.

SIR DAVID HOLDEN

Sir David Holden, KBE, CB, ERD, former head of the Northern Ireland Civil Service, died on August 31 aged 83. He was born on July 26, 1915.



Holden: career in the Northern Ireland Civil Service

TROOPS had not long moved onto the streets of Northern Ireland, in an effort to control the mayhem which coloured the early years of the recent Troubles, when David Holden succeeded to the top post in the Civil Service there in 1970. He ran it for the next six turbulent years, throughout the decline and fall of the old Stormont Government, into the era of direct rule from Westminster.

William Whitelaw and Merlyn Rees were among the Northern Ireland Secretaries he worked with, while in 1973 he was one of only two Northern Ireland civil servants to be present at the Sunningdale conference.

Holden spent his entire career not only in the Northern Ireland Civil Service but in its finance department, which was more all-embracing than the British Treasury, covering also such areas as planning (in which Holden took a great interest) and public works. On the former Whitehall pattern, he was Permanent Secretary of the finance department throughout the time that he headed the Civil Service at Stormont, and he was said at one time to be the only person who understood the Byzantine relationship between Ulster and the Treasury in Great George Street.

David Charles Beresford Holden, an Englishman by birth, was born in Wolverhampton, the son of an army chaplain who was killed in action in the First World War when his son was not yet three. Brought up by his widowed mother, the young Holden went from a preparatory school in Kent to be a boarder at Rossall School in Lancashire. He then went on to take a double first in classics at King's College, Cambridge, before moving to Stormont Castle in 1937.

A member of the Territorial Army, he was mobilised in 1939 to serve with the 8th (Belfast) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, an all-volunteer unit which shortly afterwards embarked for France with the British Expeditionary Force. The regiment returned to Britain before Dunkirk and, after retraining, left for India and Burma.

In 1943 Holden was serving as brigade major with the 1st Anti-Aircraft Brigade in Calcutta, but he later rejoined his regiment as the Allies began to push the Japanese into full retreat across Burma. The regiment, used in a field artillery role, earned its nickname "the 12-Mile Snipers" because of the accuracy of its gunners as they fired over the heads of their own troops at the fleeing enemy.

It returned to Belfast as a complete unit after the war, and Holden was briefly promoted to acting lieutenant-colonel as the senior officer in charge while the men were demobilised. He then went back to the Northern Ireland Civil Service, where for many years afterwards he was known as "Major Holden". He was awarded the Emergency Reserve Decoration in 1954 and appointed CB in 1963.

Bullet-proof windows and a radio-telephone were fitted to his home in South Belfast during the Troubles. But Holden, who was appointed KBE in 1972, the first year of direct rule, rejected the offer of personal protection, saying that the security forces were already fully stretched.

He retired in 1976 but then, to help out during an interregnum, served as director of the old Ulster Office in London (which at one time dealt with such interests as tourism and industry) for a further 12 months. After that, still a youthful-looking, vigorous 62-year-old, he resettled in Wiltshire, where he devoted his time to his family and the local church.

David Holden was a man for his time — a model of discretion and loyalty who provided strong leadership for Ulster's permanent cadre of public administrators when this was most called for. He was acknowledged to be the perfect civil servant.

He first met his wife Jean while on leave during the war near Darjeeling, where she was then living with her parents. They were married for 50 years and David Holden, who died in hospital from pneumonia after a short illness, is survived by her and by a son and daughter.

THE REV RAYMOND BROWN

The Rev Raymond Brown, biblical scholar, died in California on August 8 aged 70. He was born on May 22, 1928.

WHEN, in 1971, Raymond Brown questioned whether it is historically possible to prove the virgin conception of Jesus Christ, he was attacked by a number of Roman Catholic conservatives. But as a man of great intellectual integrity, Brown always said that the Church must learn to accommodate facts and evidence that may at first be uncomfortable. He believed that advances in knowledge resulting from biblical and historical scholarship, or from archaeological discoveries such as the Dead Sea Scrolls, could not be ignored.

As he saw it, we are living in a period of major theological development, when account must be taken of knowledge that was not available to earlier generations. This knowledge may make it hard for some people to believe in the Christian story, but the Church will not help itself by trying to offer an alternative reality in defiance of science and secular discoveries. He was part of the first generation of American Catholics to respond to Pope Pius XII's encyclical *Divino Affiante Spiritu*, which in 1943 freed scholars to use critical historical methods to study the Bible.

Yet at the same time Brown realised that the very rigidity of traditional doctrine within the Church made it hard for some Catholics to accept that past conceptions might need to be abandoned in the interests of truth.

Raymond Brown was born in New York, but his family moved to Florida when he was a teenager. Following his theological training and ordination as a priest in the Society of St Sulpice in 1953, he was awarded a fellowship to work on the Dead Sea Scrolls in Jerusalem. There, during the year 1958-59, he helped with the preparation of a concordance to some of the texts.

He next went on to teach at St Mary's Seminary in Baltimore until 1971. He then became a professor at Union Theological Seminary in New York City — the first tenured Catholic in what was historically a Protestant institution. He remained there until his retirement in 1990.

His scholarly reputation was based primarily on his two-volume Anchor Bible commentary on *The Gospel According to John*, which appeared in 1966 and 1970.

His other major works were: *The Birth of the Messiah* (1977), a commentary on the infancy narratives; *The Death of the Messiah* (1994), a two-volume commentary on the Passion narratives; and *An Introduction to the New Testament* (1996), a tome of nearly a thousand pages, which includes a historical overview of the Ancient Greco-Roman world and discussions of key theological issues, as well as illustrative maps, bibliographies and appendices. In this, he set out to explain broadly where biblical scholarship stands, so that the lay reader would not be beguiled by the media's fascination with sceptical clerics into supposing that the Gospel had been discarded entirely in theological circles.

He also wrote more than 30 shorter works on biblical topics. He was also a co-editor of *The New Jerome Biblical Commentary* (1989) and of two ecumenical studies, *Peter in the New Testament* (1973) and *Mary in the New Testament* (1978).

Brown's intellectual integrity and the depth of his scholarship made him a popular guest lecturer, and he was in demand throughout the English-speaking world. In particular, he filled the need of many Christians who were seeking an intellectually credible basis for their faith.

He was elected a corresponding Fellow of the British Academy, and was a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He served on the Pontifical Biblical Commission, 1972-78, and was a member of the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches for 25 years.

KEITH OXLEE

Keith Oxlee, former South African rugby player, died on August 31 aged 63, after complications following a replacement hip operation. He was born in Durban on December 17, 1934.



Oxlee's points total against the British Isles still stands

A SPRINGBOK fly half and goalkicker whose record points total against the British Isles still stands, Keith Oxlee visited Britain and Ireland with the South Africa rugby union tour parties of 1960 and 1965. He was far more than the kicking fly half with which his country's game has sometimes been associated. The fact that his tally of 88 points in 19 internationals included five tries indicates as much; but his true value was as an all-round player in attack and defence.

Many fly halves are found out under pressure, but his contemporaries testify to the compact Oxlee's courage in such circumstances. "When you had Oxlee as your fly half, you knew that all would be well," said John Gainsford, who played alongside him during the 1960s. "He took the knocks and he never gave me anything but clean ball. He would rather take the heat than pass it on to team-mates. That, for me, was the mark of greatness."

Oxlee was educated at Maritzburg College and developed his game with Durban Collegians. He played all his provincial rugby for Natal between 1955 and 1971, but did not break into the Springbok team until the summer of 1960, against Wilson Whineray's touring New Zealanders. In that four-match series he scored two tries, but it was not until the tour to Britain later that year that Oxlee began his international goal-kicking career.

Injury to Dick Lockyear, the team's vice-captain, forced Oxlee to take over the kicking duties against Wales in dreadful conditions at Cardiff. The rain was so heavy that late in the game the touchlines were obliterated, and the following day the River Taff burst its banks and flooded the ground. But Oxlee, after missing two earlier attempts, kicked the penalty goal which was the only score of the match.

The high point of his international career came against Arthur Smith's Lions in 1962. After the first international was drawn, Oxlee won the second meeting with another solitary penalty in Durban. A fortnight later, in Cape Town, he scored all the points in South Africa's 8-3 win, and he doubled that effort in Bloemfontein when South Africa won 34-14.

Oxlee's 16 points, from five conversions and two penalties — seven goals from eight attempts in a swirling wind — remain a record in the longstanding series between the Springboks and the Lions. When his international career ended, he had accumulated 88 points in Test Matches — more than any previous player in South Africa's history — and scored 201 points in all appearances in the green jersey.

But far more significant was his contribution towards attacking play during a decade when negative tactics dominated the game. He tended towards the unorthodox, for club, province and even country, despite the inclination of South African selectors towards a conservative game dominated by massive forwards.

Oxlee worked for a wallpaper company in Durban and subsequently was a representative for a an industrial chemicals company.

He is survived by his wife Barbara, and by a son and daughter.

CAPT C.B. FRY

Captain C. B. Fry, who died yesterday in London at the age of 84, was known in his school and university days as the finest all-round athlete of the time.

Strong and well built, he was a perfect type of youthful vigour, and he excelled at those pursuits where quickness of eye and activity of limb are required. In the opening years of the present century he became one of England's leading cricketers, and captain of our team in Test matches against Australia and South Africa. To his fondness for sports and games he added a wide range of intellectual interests.

At Oxford he was a triple Blue, and in his third year was elected captain of cricket and Association football and president of the athletic club, a combination of offices which is understood to be without parallel. At the inter-university sports of 1892 he set up a new record in the long jump with a distance of 23ft. 5in., a record which stood for 21 years. In 1894, the year of his captaincy, he scored 100, not out, against Cambridge, and at Association football he was a good enough full-back to be chosen for England. He would have secured a fourth Blue, for Rugby football, but for an accident a few days before the university match. The development of Charles Fry as a cricketer came later. He made plenty of runs at Oxford and always looked difficult to get out, but his style was stiff and his scoring strokes few. After he went down he first played for Surrey, but later Sussex claimed him.

The number of runs made for Sussex in the ensuing seasons by Fry and that brilliant batsman Prince Ranjitsinhji must be read to be believed. In the eight summers from 1898 to 1905 Fry was twice first in the English batting averages and four times second. In one season he totalled over 3,000 runs, and in five others over 2,000. He never toured Australia with an English side and for a time he met with little success in Test matches in this country, but in 1905 he established himself with a fine innings of 144 at the Oval. He captained England in 1912 against Australia and South Africa. He finished his career in first-class cricket in 1921, retiring when he was in his fiftieth year. Altogether he made 94 centuries and holds the record among English batsmen for consecutive centuries, scoring in 1901 six three-figure innings in succession.

From his early days he occupied himself with literature and journalism. He edited Fry's Magazine and contributed to other periodicals articles on subjects about which he was well qualified to speak. He wrote in a lively style, and was full of theories on the whole art of batsmanship or kindred matters. In 1939 he published Life Worth Living, an autobiography which though sometimes inaccurate in detail, is an interesting record of a varied and vigorous career.

The best section of the book is the description of the work carried on for many years by the author and his wife at Hamble in connexion with the Mercury, a training ship for the Royal Navy and the Merchant Navy. He directed the training ship Mercury for more than 40 years.

ON THIS DAY

September 8, 1956

Mens sana in corpore sano might well have been coined with C.B. Fry in mind. After the First World War he went to Geneva as a member of the Indian delegation for the League of Nations.

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LEGAL NOTICES
Garden Restaurants Limited t/a Manetas
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at One Great Cumberland Place, London W1H 8LR, on 16th September 1998 at 12.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq. It is not intended to propose any resolutions at the meeting concerning Liquidators remuneration, however at the meeting may receive information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting. A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, One Great Cumberland Place, London W1H 8LR, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
DATED THIS 1st September 1998
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NEWS

Hague orders snap ballot on EMU

■ William Hague called a snap ballot of Conservative Party members to endorse his policy of ruling out British membership of the single currency for this Parliament and the next.

He brought to a head the internal dispute that has again threatened to wreak havoc at the annual conference, by ordering a vote that will leave his pro-European critics out on a limb. Mr Hague said he wanted to "set the party free" so that it could concentrate its fire on the Government Page 1

Duma flexes its muscle as rouble falls

■ Russia lurched further into political and economic crisis yesterday when parliament overwhelmingly rejected President Yeltsin's candidate for Prime Minister and the chairman of the country's central bank resigned as the rouble continued its decline Page 1

Man Utd summons

The directors of Manchester United have been summoned to an urgent meeting to consider BSkyB's proposed takeover, amid opposition from fans and the likelihood of an Office of Fair Trading investigation Page 1

Trimble breaks taboo

David Trimble broke one of Unionism's biggest taboos by speaking directly to Gerry Adams Page 2

The riskiest sport

Riding a water-slide is one of the most dangerous leisure activities in Britain Page 3

Boy saved father

A boy aged 11 worked to keep his injured father alive for four hours when they were trapped in a flooded cave Page 5

The upper crusty

A Tory councillor spent a week living as an "upper crusty" for a new BBC series Page 6

Education failure

Testing children's grasp of the three Rs in primary school is unlikely to remedy failings in education, the President of the British Association for the Advancement of Science said Page 8

Poor using NHS less

Fewer poor people are seeing their doctors and dentists than five years ago, the National Consumer Council says Page 9

Not lost in vain

The Queen will learn of a mother's remarkable response on losing all three of her sons, two of them in action during the Second World War Page 10

Tory dissent

Pro-European Tories angrily dismissed William Hague's snap ballot on a single currency as a political stunt and reasserted their opposition to his European policy Page 11

Cruising for votes

Gerhard Schröder, the four-times married contender for the leadership of Germany, is wooing gay voters Page 12

Christians sorry

A group of 16 Western volunteers are in Lebanon to apologise to Arabs for the atrocities committed by Crusaders Page 13

Decisive week

President Yeltsin now has one week to decide whether to take the Russian parliament head on and force a crucial third vote on Viktor Chernomyrdin's candidacy as Prime Minister, or choose between three or four alternative figures Page 14

Clinton told to go

President Clinton, who is being undermined more effectively by so-called friends than by political opponents, has now been told to resign by the head of his church Page 15

Fears of Spice Baby epidemic

■ Fears of an epidemic of "Spice Babies" born to low-achieving teenagers were raised by the headmistress who speaks for secondary schools. Judith Mullen, president of the Secondary Heads Association, said she was concerned that hundreds of teenage devotees of the Spice Girls would be tempted to follow Scary and Posh to the antenatal clinic Page 1

BRENTON EDWARDS



Hair-raising: electrotrichogenesis, a process to help baldness, being launched at Manor House Hospital in North London

BUSINESS

Boeing: The beleaguered aircraft giant admitted it had been too arrogant, too distracted and too self-satisfied in a surprising display of contrition at the Farnborough International Air Show Page 27

Oil: Gordon Brown has been forced to abandon plans to reform North Sea oil taxes by the plunging oil price Page 27

Hong Kong: Investors in Hong Kong strongly supported stringent measures to curb speculators and improve banking liquidity. Hong Kong shares soared Page 27

Markets: The FTSE-100 index rose 180.0 points to close at 5347.0. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 104.3 to 103.4 after a fall from $1.6736 to $1.6685 and from DM2.9029 to DM2.8795 Page 30

SPORT

Football: Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, faces questioning from the Football Association over his contractual plans, his links with Eileen Drewery, the faith healer, and his book Page 52

Cricket: Lancashire added the Axa League title to the NatWest Trophy when they defeated Hampshire by 16 runs at Old Trafford Page 52

Tennis: Steffi Graf, once the Mercedes of women's tennis, has become prone to mechanical failure. One week she will wallop all-comers, the next she succumbs without protest Page 50

Racing: Sea Wave, 11-10 favourite when the Tote opened its book, was switched from the St Leger to the Prix Niel at Longchamp on Sunday Page 45

ARTS

Good start: English National Opera opens its new season with a revival of David Pountney's stunning production of Dvorák's *Rusalka* Page 19

Home and hearth: The marvellous domestic paintings of Pieter de Hooch go on show at the Dulwich Picture Gallery Page 20

Second dance: Brian Friel's memory play *Dancing at Lughnasa* is revived by the National Youth Theatre, but in a staging that leaves little in the way of genuine drama Page 21

Funny man: The comedian Jasper Carrott proves that he can still command a large, multigenerational following, as his lengthy national tour reaches the Swan in High Wycombe Page 21

FEATURES

Virgin battle: In the second extract from his autobiography, Richard Branson tells of his search for evidence in his fight against British Airways and his outraged reaction to the questions of the talk show host Clive Anderson Page 16

Firm friendships: Relationships in the Nineties appear doomed, but one psychologist has found ways to strengthen commitment Page 18

Head cases: Regular attacks by headlice persuade parents to try different treatments, leading, experts say, to a lucrative market in often useless products — and a rise in the lice population Page 18

LAW

Obscene Act: "The Obscene Publications Act 1959 is poorly drafted, inconsistently applied and lacks any coherent principle." David Pannick, QC, on censorship, British-style Page 39

Most wanted: To whom do the best lawyers turn when they want legal advice? Frances Gibb on the profession's most wanted Page 41

THE PAPERS

No one, not even Kenneth Starr, knows exactly what his report on *President Clinton's conduct will* say. But almost everyone expects it to be a turning point: a clear declaration of charges against the President and perhaps the beginning of the end — of this scandal or his presidency — *The Irish Times*

TV LISTINGS

Preview: The society photographer Christopher Sykes reveals the favourite food of the artistocracy. *Upper Crust* (BBC2, 8pm). **Review:** Joe Joseph on a new cop show with the old angles Pages 50, 51

OPINION

Act Two: The Duma

As even such robust nationalists as Mr Lebed say, Russia's problem is too *little*, not too *much*, reform Page 23

Hague's rabbit

Even if it does not solve all his European problems, it will entrench his policy and strengthen his leadership Page 23

Mad sheep scare

Experts should guard their words carefully; and the public should try to learn the language of risk so that it can understand better what the experts mean Page 23

COLUMNS

LIBBY PURVES

These think-tankers do not understand the source of royal magic, because they do not sympathise with the innate gentle conservatism and romanticism of British hearts. But they want a bit of that magic for their project, so they do not propose to free the royals from the goldfish bowl Page 22

MICHAEL GOVE

The Ashdownite, a very English blend of Captain Mainwaring and Obadiah Slope, is smug and bossy without ever having won or run anything worthwhile Page 22

SIMON BARNES

It is part of the pattern of things: Mr Murdoch buys venerable institutions, part of the bedrock of the countries in which he operates, and there is a tremendous outcry, and he seals the deal and then he does it again Page 22

OBITUARIES

Gerald Littlewood, first Director of Music at Chetham's School of Music; **Sir David Holden**, former head of the Northern Ireland Civil Service; **The Rev Raymond Brown**, biblical scholar; **Keith Oxlee**, South African Rugby player Page 25

LETTERS

Guardsmens' release; Viagra on NHS; Vicenza's cat-eaters; duty-free sales; cyber-sickness; Diana; art and architecture Page 23



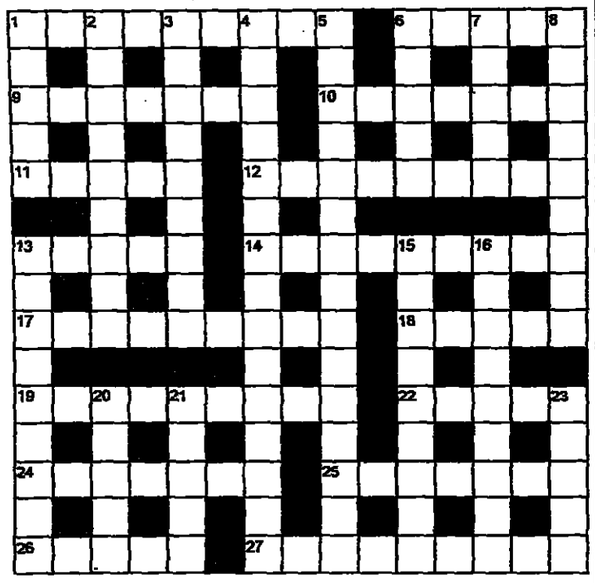
TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ INTERFACE
How technology makes military manoeuvres more deadly. Plus, can computers damage your health?

■ HOMES
Market slowdown may become a meltdown

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,891



ACROSS

1 Catches fish in special nets (9).
6 Fired workers united in display of *insolence* (3,2).
9 Living space a little restricted in Derby, say (7).
10 He leaves engineers to fit exhaust before run (7).
11 Guide animal (5).
12 Quiet, without hooter going about one (9).
13 Tough lawman having occasion to trap drivers (5).
14 A rerouting of his parcel round (9).
17 Take rod to fish — that's plain (9).
18 Man taking on many an old serf (5).
19 Source of spiteful burden Queen placed on Snow White, perhaps (9).
22 Opening move executed to gain *room for manoeuvre* (5).
24 Travel firm recruiting ace flyer (7).
25 Decline to give bad mark to *backward scholar* (7).
26 The old fellow outside is the most senior person (5).
27 Showing lumps, being led out and mistreated (9).

DOWN

1 Spirit shown by those finally getting to the top (5).
2 Informal chat at a board meeting (5,4).
3 Disreputable degenerate held up by no promises to pay (9).
4 Rocky island with nowhere to relax (3,4,4,4).
5 Send on part of course at the outset that's undemanding (15).
6 Time to enter Euro-currency in some measure (5).
7 Short length of intersection (5).
8 Cheese and wine getting a lot of recognition (4,5).
13 Precipitated advance in action (9).
15 Gives further attention to a learner's practice session (9).
16 One *performs rite as* church supporter in period of penance (9).
20 The taking of excess profit for accommodation (5).
21 Fine Scottish leader in national show of strength (5).
23 Had a revolution, ousting king, and restored harmony (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20890

H	E	D	G	E	R	O	W		P	A	R	C	E	L
E		I		S		R		B		P		L		I
A	S	S	E	S		C	H	E	A	P	J	A	C	K
D		E		E		H		D		A		N		E
R	O	M	A	N	I	A	N	S		L	E	G	A	L
E		B		R		I		O				Y		
S	H	O	C	K	E	D		T	R	O	O	P	S	
T		D		N				S		R		E		
	T	Y	P	I	N	G		S	T	A	T	I	S	M
R			F		E		I		N		P			
O	U	N	C	E		N	U	M	E	R	I	C	A	L
O		E		E		I		E		I		O		
D	A	R	E	D	E	V	I	L		A	P	P	L	Y
O		V		G		A		L		L		E		
O	P	E	N	E	R		P	R	E	M	I	E	R	E

Times Two Crossword, page 52

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 6.24 am — Sun sets: 7.32 pm

Moon sets 8.43 am — Moon rises 8.47 pm

Last quarter September 13

London 7.32 pm to 6.25 am
Bristol 7.41 pm to 6.35 am
Edinburgh 7.50 pm to 6.32 am
Manchester 7.43 pm to 6.31 am
Penzance 7.52 pm to 6.50 am

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 41.4% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1997

FORECAST

☐ **General:** breezy and showery.
☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia:** rain clearing, sunny spells, showers later. Wind SW, moderate to fresh. Max 22C (72F).
☐ **Central S England, Midlands:** sunny spells, showers. Wind SW, moderate to fresh. Max 22C (72F).
☐ **Central N, E & NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee:** rain clearing, sunny spells, showers later. Wind SW, moderate to fresh. Max 22C (72F).
☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, Wales:** sunny spells, showers, heavy downpours possible. Wind SW, fresh. Max 21C (70F).
☐ **NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow:** rain clearing, then sunny spells with showers. Wind S to SW, fresh. Max 20C (68F).
☐ **Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** dull and wet, brighter later. Wind fresh, SE. Max 18C (64F).
☐ **Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland:** rain then blustery showers with brief brighter spells. Wind SE to S, fresh. Max 19C (66F).
☐ **N Ireland:** showers, some heavy, brief brighter interludes. Steadier rain later. Wind SW, fresh, locally strong. Max 20C (68F).
☐ **Republic of Ireland:** fair, becoming cloudy and showery. Wind SW, fresh. Max 22C (72F)
☐ **Outlook:** unsettled and breezy.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm; b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

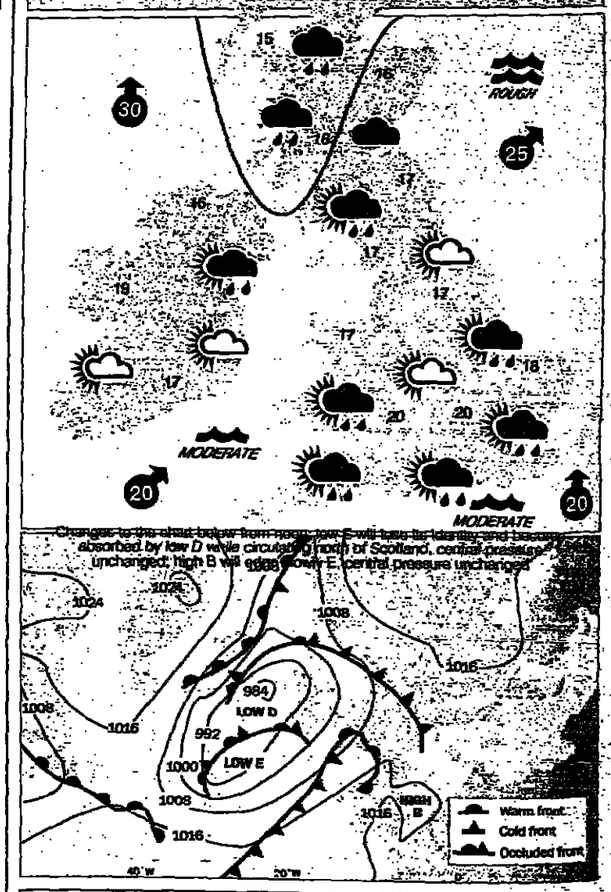
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	0.4	0.01	14	57	fg	Isle-of-wight	7.0	0.01	20	68	s
Anglesey	2.6	0.01	19	66	sh	Jersey	7.1	0.09	23	73	s
Aspatria	8.5	0.01	22	72	sh	Kinloss	4.0	0.01	21	70	s
Aviemore	7.1	0.01	21	70	s	Leeds	7.6	0.01	24	75	s
Belfast	-	0.02	17	63	sh	Lerwick	-	0.02	13	55	du
Birmingham	5.5	0.09	22	72	s	Leuchars	6.8	0.06	19	66	b
Bognor R	9.1	0.06	21	70	s	Littlehmptn	8.9	0.03	21	70	s
Bournem'th	7.8	0.14	21	70	s	London	8.0	0.01	23	73	s
Bristol	7.0	0.11	20	68	b	Lowestoft	6.3	0.01	20	68	s
Buxton	7.8	0.20	21	70	s	Manchester	8.2	0.01	23	73	s
Cardiff	x	0.01	20	68	r	Margate	7.5	-	23	73	s
Cleeton	7.5	-	19	66	s	Morecambe	7.5	0.01	22	72	s
Cleethorpes	6.5	0.06	23	73	s	Newcastle	7.8	0.05	21	70	b
Colwyn Bay	7.3	0.04	23	73	s	Norwich	5.8	0.01	23	73	b
Cromer	5.7	-	23	73	s	Oxford	7.0	0.02	22	72	s
Dunbar	6.9	0.04	22	72	b	Penzance	1.3	0.40	19	66	r
Eastbourne	9.7	0.01	21	70	s	Poole	6.8	0.09	21	70	c
Edinburgh	8.4	-	23	73	s	Prestatyn	x	0.01	24	75	s
Eskdalemuir	4.8	0.01	20	68	b	Ross on Wye	6.4	0.07	21	70	s
Exmouth	2.0	0.02	19	66	b	Salmn Snd	0.7	0.11	20	68	du
Fishguard	1.1	0.17	17	63	sh	Scarboro'	6.4	0.02	21	70	b
Folkestone	7.2	0.01	21	70	s	Shrewsbury	5.5	0.02	21	70	b
Glasgow	8.6	0.03	22	72	s	Southend	8.0	0.01	21	70	s
Guernsey	7.0	0.01	22	72	s	Southsea	5.2	0.01	21	70	r
Hastings	8.7	0.02	21	70	s	Stornoway	7.5	-	21	70	s
Hayling I	8.2	0.02	21	70	s	Swanage	7.0	0.09	20	68	s
Herne Bay	5.5	-	23	73	s	Tenby	0.2	0.08	18	64	sh
Hove	9.3	-	x	x	s	Tiree	6.0	0.01	19	66	s
Hunstanton	5.6	0.03	23	73	b	Torquay	3.0	0.02	20	68	b
Isle of Man	3.7	0.04	18	64	r	Weymouth	5.9	0.02	19	66	s

ABROAD

Ajaccio	26	79	s	Cologne	17	63	c	Madrid	29	84	s
Alicatin	29	84	s	C'phagn	19	66	s	Majorca	28	82	s
Alex'dria	36	97	s	Corfu	32	72	r	Malaga	27	81	s
Algiers	31	88	s	Dublin	15	59	r	Malta	30	86	s
Amst'dam	19	66	c	Dubrovnik	26	79	s	Metb'rne	13	55	c
Athens	29	84	s	Faro	25	77	s	Mexico C	X	X	
Bahrain	37	99	s	Florence	28	82	f	Miami	32	90	b
Bangkok	31	88	f	Frankfurt	16	61	c	Milan	27	81	s
Barbados	27	81	r	Funchal	26	79	c	Montreal	25	77	f
Barcelona	28	82	f	Geneva	21	70	s	Moscow	13	55	c
Beijing	31	88	s	Gibraltar	24	75	s	Munich	17	63	s
Beirut	35	61	c	Helsinki	16	61	c	Nairobi	24	75	c
Belgrade	18	64	c	Hong K	36	79	f	Naples	29	84	f
Berlin	15	61	d	Innsbruck	15	59	c	N Delhi	35	95	s
Bermuda	28	82	s	Istanbul	25	77	s	N York	31	88	s
Biarritz	31	88	s	Jeddah	36	97	f	Nice	25	77	s
Borde'x	36	79	s	Jo'burg	23	73	s	Oslo	15	59	s
Brussels	18	64	c	L Palmas	29	84	s	Paris	19	66	f
Budapst	16	61	c	Le Touqt	18	64	f	Perth	19	66	s
B Aires	20	68	s	Lisbon	25	77	s	Prague	16	61	f
Cairo	36	97	s	Locarno	23	73	s	Reykjavik	12	54	f
Cape Tn	19	66	s	L Angels	21	70	f	Rhodes	29	84	s
Chicago	32	90	s	Luxembg	17	63	c	Rio de J	25	77	f
Ch'church	14	57	X	Luxor	39	102	s	Riyadh	43	109	s
								Rome	27	81	s
								Salzburg	14	57	c
								S Frisco	22	72	s
								Santiago	9	48	X
								S Paulo	X	X	
								Seoul	28	82	c
								Sing'por	32	90	t
								St'kholm	17	63	f
								Strasb'rg	19	66	f
								Sydney	16	61	f
								Tangier	28	79	s
								Tel Aviv	31	88	s
								Tenerife	30	86	s
								Tokyo	25	77	f
								Toronto	32	90	s
								Tunis	32	90	s
								Valencia	30	86	s
								Vanc'ver	20	68	s
								Venice	23	73	s
								Vienna	17	63	r
								Warsaw	19	66	s
								Wash'ton	35	95	s
								Wel'ngton	14	57	X
								Zurich	18	64	t

Temperatures at midday local time on Sunday X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes: to the chart below: from noon low E will have its intensity and pressure absorbed by low D while circulation north of Scotland, central pressure unchanged; high B will weaken slowly E, central pressure unchanged

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Aberdeen	2:01	4.7	14:37	4.5	Liverpool	-	-	12:20	9.9
Avonmouth	8:20	14.1	20:41	14.4	London Bridge	2:48	7.7	15:03	7.7
Belfast	-	-	12:04	3.5	Lowestoft	10.16	2.8	22:57	2.8
Cardiff	8:08	13.9	20:27	13.2	Margate	0:56	5.0	13:08	5.1
Devonport	8:45	5.8	19:03	6.0	Milford Haven	7:15	7.4	19:39	7.8
Dover	-	-	12:03	7.1	Newquay	8:06	7.4	18:27	7.8
Dublin	0:07	4.4	12:40	4.2	Oban	6:42	4.2	18:08	4.4
Falmouth	6:16	5.6	18.34	5.8	Penzance	5:35	5.8	17:57	6.0
Greenock	1:32	3.7	13.56	3.5	Portland	8:21	2.2	20:34	2.1
Harwich	0:47	4.3	13:03	4.2	Portsmouth	-	-	12:24	4.9
Holyhead	11:21	5.9	23:38	6.1	Shoreham	-	-	12:29	5.1
Hull (Albert D)	7:08	9.3	19:40	9.1	Southampton	11:30	4.9	-	-
Ilfracombe	7:01	9.8	19:23	10.0	Swansea	7:23	10.3	19:42	10.5
King's Lynn	7:14	7.5	19:51	7.2	Tees	4:29	5.9	17:05	6.2
Leith	3:23	6.0	15 51	6.0	Walton-On-Naze	0:37	4.5	12:51	4.7

All times GMT. Heights in metres.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Prestatyn, North Wales, 24C (75F); lowest day max: 13C (55F); highest rainfall: Penzance, Cornwall, 0.4in; highest sunshine: Eastbourne

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft — TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8 1998

Moves to fight currency speculators boost equity markets

Shares rally amid tough HK reforms

FROM ALASDAIR MURRAY IN HONG KONG AND JANET BUSH IN LONDON

INVESTORS in Hong Kong and London yesterday gave strong support to stringent measures taken in the former colony to curb speculators and improve banking liquidity.

Economists said the reforms, which were introduced yesterday by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), could prove to be the vital "turning point" in Hong Kong's battle to preserve its currency peg with the US dollar.

The Hang Seng rose by 588.3 points, or 8 per cent, to close at 8,076.7. With banking stocks including the dual-listed HSBC enjoying strong rises, the turnaround brought an 180-point rise in the FTSE 100 to 5,347. Though New York was closed for Labor Day, there was encouraging news from all over the world.

Kwok Chuen-kwok, chief economist at Standard Chartered in Hong Kong, said the reforms would help to break the "vicious circle" that has seen short selling attacks on the currency peg forcing interest rates higher and raising the risk premium on borrowing by the local banking sector.

The effect has been to further weaken the already-struggling local economy and consequently encourage fresh speculation against the Hong Kong dollar peg.

Under Hong Kong's new system, the amount speculators will have to wager to force a rise in interest rates will be greatly increased from HK$2 billion (£155 million) to HK$32 billion due to changes in the way that the Special Administrative Region's inter-bank market functions.

The HKMA has also given the banks a convertibility undertaking, guaranteeing that it will exchange all money in the clearing accounts into US dollars at a rate of HK$7.75.

Chi Lo, senior international economist at HSBC, said: "The measures have helped create more breathing space for the hard-pressed banks and property sector but the risk premium will remain high and will not entirely curb the speculative threat."

Some analysts warned that the new measures could prove to be the first step towards the introduction of capital controls. However, Donald Tsang, Hong Kong's Financial Secretary, insisted yesterday that he had no intention of imposing capital controls although there could be further measures to curb speculators in the coming days.

Commentary.....29

Elsewhere in the region, Malaysia, which last week dismayed the international investment community by reintroducing exchange controls and curbs on stock market speculation, reaped a dramatic early dividend from its risky new policy. Shares jumped by nearly 20 per cent as local buyers piled back into the market.

Shares linked to prominent supporters of the Malaysian Government were the biggest winners following rumours that the country is to launch a public spending spree to bolster its ailing economy.

Buying was not confined to Hong Kong and Kuala Lumpur with strong gains in other Asian markets. In Tokyo, the Nikkei 225 index closed more than 5 per cent higher despite the inconclusiveness of the weekend's meeting between Kiichi Miyazawa, Japan's Finance Minister, and Robert Rubin, the US Treasury Secretary.

Shares worldwide rallied largely in response to remarks made on Friday by Alan Greenspan, Chairman of the US Federal Reserve, suggesting that the Fed is sufficiently concerned about the severity of the world crisis to contemplate cutting US interest rates.

This led to aggressive selling of the dollar yesterday. The US currency slid to its lowest level for four months against the yen and for 9½ months against the mark.

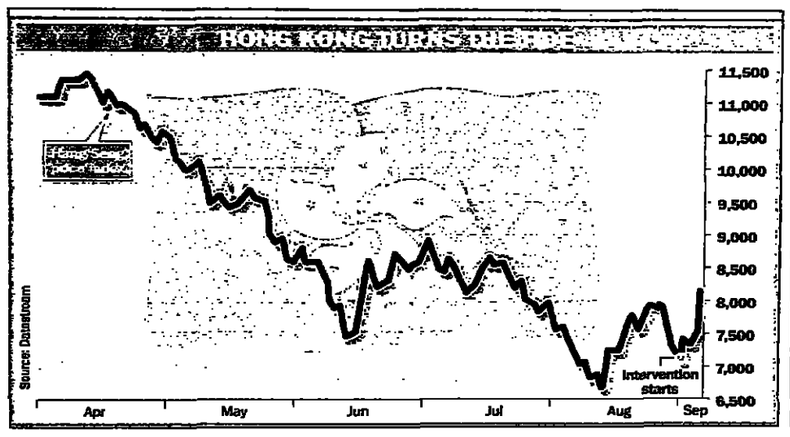
Sterling slid in sympathy with the dollar, dropping below DM2.8700 at one point before rallying to close at DM2.8788, as speculation mounted that UK rates may follow American rates lower at some stage. With the Monetary Policy Committee meeting this week, a Merrill Lynch Gallup poll of UK fund managers yesterday found 98 per cent saying that the next move in base rates will be down.

Analysts were still concerned about bad news from Russia. The Duma yesterday voted for the second time to reject Viktor Chernomyrdin as Russian Prime Minister and Sergei Dubinin, head of Russia's Central Bank resigned.

The Group of Seven yesterday confirmed that senior foreign and finance ministry officials will meet in London on Saturday to discuss the Russian crisis.



Donald Tsang has raised the stakes for those attacking Hong Kong's US dollar peg



Booker confirms Budgens takeover talks

BY FRASER NELSON

BOOKER has confirmed that it is in merger talks with Budgens, and is in the final stages of creating a £550 million company led by John von Spreckelsen.

The food conglomerate, which was in merger talks with Somerfield until 11 days ago, is understood to be negotiating a reverse takeover of Budgens in an all-share deal.

Mr von Spreckelsen, chief executive of Budgens, would assume the role of company doctor and sell off Booker's salmon, chicken and food processing divisions. This would create a food wholesaling and retailing group with £5 billion in annual sales.

Booker said it had been talking to Mr von Spreckelsen long before David Simons, chief executive of Somerfield, made his approach. Somerfield broke off talks after going into the due diligence stage.

Although the talks with Budgens have been an open secret in the City since last week, shares of both companies fell yesterday.

Sally Jones, analyst at Crédit Lyonnais, said: "Booker is heavily geared, and if trading has deteriorated — as everyone expects — they will be in a very difficult position."

An analyst said: "If Budgens manages to make Booker more competitive it will only be helping its rival grocers. Budgens should stick to expanding in convenience retailing."

Other analysts said that Budgens has already seen Booker's balance sheet and would have withdrawn from talks if there was any danger of defaulting on the banking covenants. Booker said there is very little geographical overlap with Budgens.

Mr von Spreckelsen was brought into Budgens six years ago, after turning round a troubled grocery company in Germany.

Commentary, page 29

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	5347.0	(+180.0)
Yield	3.12%	
FTSE All Share	2470.19	(+73.25)
Nikkei	14790.06	(+747.15)
New York:		
Dow Jones	Closed	
S&P Composite	Closed	

US RATE

Federal Funds	Closed	(5½%)
Long bond		(103²⁄₃₂)
Yield		(5.28%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	7¹¹⁄₁₆%	(7⅛%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	112.62	(112.26)

STERLING

New York:		
$	Closed	(1.6721)
London:		
$	1.6691	(1.6732)
DM	2.8792	(2.9023)
FFr	9.6524	(9.7313)
SFr	2.3549	(2.3814)
Yen	219.78	(224.77)
£ Index	103.4	(104.30)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	Closed	(1.7350)
FFr		(5.8030)
SFr		(1.4250)
Yen		(133.56)
$ Index	109.8	(110.8)

Tokyo close Yen 132.03

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day(Nov)	$13.35	/$13.55/

GOLD

London close	$287.25	($285.55)

TAb offers Wallis a chance for millions

BY PAUL DURMAN

STUART WALLIS, the former chief executive of Fisons, has been given the chance to make millions from Therapeutic Antibodies, the small biotech company where he became chairman last week.

Mr Wallis's contract entitles him to be paid up to 10 per cent of the increase in TAb's market value. If TAb could recover the £112 million valuation it had on flotation two years ago, Mr Wallis could receive an estimated £8 million.

A spokeswoman for TAb, which has developed anti-venom for treating snakebites, suggested shareholders would be happy to reward Mr Wallis if he could produce a recovery in a price that has slumped from 525p at flotation to 86½p.

However, Mr Wallis has joined TAb with the biotechnology sector out of favour. TAb has been among the worst hit because it is a little-understood company based in Nashville and reports in dollars. Mr Wallis is planning to move the company to London.

Moreover, biotech shares can recover quickly and there are some signs that investor confidence is returning. Vanguard Medica has almost doubled in six weeks, while Celltech and Cortecs have both recently bounced 50 per cent from their lows.

Mr Wallis will receive the full 10 per cent if TAb's share price outperforms three-quarters of the other constituents of the FTSE small cap index.

Biotechs buoyed, page 29

Boeing's chief blames decline on 'arrogance'

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

BOEING, the beleaguered aviation industry giant, yesterday admitted the company had been "too arrogant, too distracted or too self-satisfied".

In a surprising display of contrition at the Farnborough International Air Show Harry Stonecipher, president and chief operating officer, said: "We've let down many commercial airplane customers through late deliveries, that's not tolerable or acceptable."

Mr Stonecipher was speaking as Airbus, Boeing's arch-rival, was basking as star of the air show. Airbus has overtaken Boeing in orders and last month beat it to a prestigious British Airways contract.

Boeing plunged to a $178 million (£107 million) loss for last year and sacked Ron Woodard, its head of civil aircraft operations. Mr Stonecipher denied that Mr Woodard had been a scapegoat.

"Mr Woodard did not perform. I do not believe in sacrificial lambs," he said.

Mr Stonecipher said Boeing would dispose of peripheral businesses but would stop short of selling big operations.

At Farnborough Boeing also sought to stem the increasing rivalry between European and US aerospace companies.

It said that more than half of the manufacturing of the 717 — a plane it inherited from McDonnell — would be executed by European companies. They include Italy's Alenia, Germany's BMW and the UK's Rolls-Royce. Mr Stonecipher said that Boeing suppliers in Europe supported 90,000 jobs.

Boeing delivered one measure of good news at the air show with orders worth $1.1 billion to the International Lease Finance Corporation and KLM, the Dutch carrier.



Stonecipher: frank admission

Airbus in China, page 28

Robinson help for small firms

GEOFFREY ROBINSON, the Paymaster General, has set up a working group to consider problems facing smaller quoted companies in London (Martin Barrow writes).

Mr Robinson, who announced the new group at a CBI presentation last night, said the Treasury had identified "numerous financial and regulatory issues that cause concern" for smaller companies seeking to raise funds through the stock market.

The working group will be chaired by Derek Riches, of Merrill Lynch. His deputy is Brian Basham, chairman of Equity Development. The group has been established amid concern about dwindling institutional interest.

There are more than 2,000 smaller quoted companies outside the FTSE 350.

Brown scraps extra tax plan for North Sea oil

BY GEORGE SIVELL

GORDON BROWN has effectively abandoned plans to raise more tax from North Sea oilfields just days before applications for the next round of oil licences were due to close.

The Chancellor blamed oil prices for his decision to call of the reform. He said: "The Government has been monitoring changes in oil prices and I have concluded that at the current low level of oil prices it would not be right at this stage to proceed with reform of the regime."

Plans for a so-called reform of North Sea oil taxes were first unveiled in the snap budget of July 1997 just after Labour took office. Then the oil price stood at more than $20 a barrel at had traded above $25 in the latter part of 1996.

North Sea oil is now trading at about $13 a barrel, leaving little room for explorers and producers to make a profit. The oil industry told the Government during the consultation stage of the oil tax regime that work on potentially large discoveries was grinding to a halt because of uncertainty over taxes and oil prices. One such project was Clair field, west of Shetland, which contains five billion barrels of oil and is ranked alongside the Brent and Forties fields in commercial importance.



Brown: bad time for reform

Shares in the North Sea oil explorers and producers such as Lasmo and Enterprise have halved this year. Even shares in the leading producers such as BP and Shell, which sell petrol as well as explore for oil, are down 17 per cent.

Shares in BP rose 30p to 807p yesterday. Some of the specialist oil explorers also rose, notably Cairn Energy up 14p to 128p and British Borneo, up 12½p to 252½p.

Commentary, page 29

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Villa's net value boosted by United talks

By Jason Nisse

DOUG ELLIS, the septuagenarian chairman of Aston Villa, was yesterday giving thanks to Manchester United for the second time in three weeks. Last month the Manchester club paid Villa £12.6 million for Dwight Yorke, its Trinidadian striker, and the news of BSkyB's talks to take United over gave Villa shares their largest boost in the 18 months since the Premiership club floated on the Stock Exchange.

After United, whose shares put on 47¼p to a high of 206¼p, Villa was the biggest gainer yesterday in monetary terms. Its shares rose 9.3 per cent to 615p, a move that added £6 million to its value.

However, almost every stock received a boost, as takeover fever hit the market. Celtic, where the chairman, Fergus McCann, is ready to sell his controlling stake, was up £2 at £22.50; Tottenham Hotspur, where Alan Sugar, the chairman, has said he wants to sell his 40 per cent holding, rose 3¼p to 64p; and Newcastle United, where many fans and City analysts want directors Freddy Shepherd and Douglas Hall to sell their 64 per cent interest, jumped 5p to 67½p. Even relative minnows who can only dream of playing in a European Super League, like Leicester City or Southampton, rose more than 10 per cent.

Rumours of potential bidders — either rivalling BSkyB for United or bidding for another club — include Enic, the investment group with a stake in Glasgow Rangers and links to Time Warner; Canal Plus, the French media giant that owns Paris St Germain; DirecTV, the US pay-TV company; Mirror Group, which tried to buy Aston Villa before it floated; and Carlton Communications, which yesterday played down rumours that it may buy a stake in Arsenal.

According to David Brooks, football analyst at Nomura, the broker, most of these bid rumours are wide of the mark. He said the most attractive clubs after United — Arsenal and Liverpool, the two other English sides invited to join the European Super League — are not quoted on the stock market but controlled by a small group of shareholders. Even these are unlikely to command a price of even a third of what United is worth. "The premium attached to United is a function of its uniqueness," said Mr Brooks. "It is not realistic to assume that anyone is going to bid large amounts for any of the other stocks."

However at Wise Speake, the Newcastle broker, Vinay Bedi believes that there could be some activity with media or leisure companies snapping up stakes in the larger quoted clubs. "You could put arguments towards a bid for Newcastle United or Aston Villa," he said. "Both have good regional franchises, are heavily involved in the Premier League talks on pay-per-view, and are on the peripheries of the European Super League."

Imro acts as Malaysian crisis hits unit trusts

By Caroline Merrell

THE Investment Management Regulatory Organisation (Imro) is intervening over the crisis afflicting Malaysian unit trusts and investment trusts.

The City watchdog is later this week to meet some of the UK's leading fund managers to decide the best way to deal with millions of pounds held on behalf of thousands of investors in Far East trusts that hold shares in Malaysian companies.

Some fund managers, including Fidelity, HSBC and Barings, have suspended dealing in their trusts because of the imposition of currency controls by the Malaysian Government at the beginning of this month. The controls make it impossible to exchange ringgit denominated assets into sterling.

Imro said: "We are trying to find a common way forward." One of the big issues for fund managers with Malaysian holdings will be pricing. Although most of the funds affected have less than 5 per cent exposure to Malaysia, the investment managers still have to find a method of pricing the assets, which are effectively illiquid. Imro was yesterday unable to put a figure on total Malaysian investments, but claimed that it was small.

The move by Imro follows a meeting between regulators and fund managers in Hong Kong at the weekend at which the pricing issue was discussed. Many of the trusts are managed from Hong Kong.

The UK's leading fund research house is also pressing investment managers with holdings in Malaysia to clarify the situation for thousands of private investors with money in Far East trusts. Standard & Poor's Fund Research yesterday demanded that fund managers come up with a cohesive strategy on their Malaysian holdings.

Stephen Burr, Baring Fund Managers director, said that his company was concerned about events. "It could be that we should be making some adjustment to prices," he said. "But we are still waiting to see what happens." Mr Burr said that it was still far from clear what the Malaysian Government actually intended.

Invesco, another of the UK's biggest fund managers, has two funds that hold investments in Malaysia. One, the GT Asean fund, holds more than 10 per cent in the region. Yesterday, the company was confident that the fund could continue trading, although it admitted that the situation could change.

MIKE SCOTT



Plans for the future: Andrew MacKenzie, chief executive of Bryant, who reported a 38 per cent rise in pre-tax profits

Bryant attacks planning process

By Chris Ayres

THE Government's system for granting planning permission to housebuilders came under renewed fire yesterday from Bryant, the homes and construction group, which claimed that policy had become "hijacked by emotion".

Andrew MacKenzie, chief executive, said it was often more difficult to get planning permission to build on brownfield sites than on greenfield sites, in spite of the Government's initiative to encourage urban redevelopment.

"Planning is always contentious," Mr MacKenzie said. "But about 10 per cent more houses would have been built last year if the Government had had a more reasonable position. They have been inhibiting supply." Bryant said it built 27 per cent of its homes on previously used land.

The company, whose shares have more than halved in value since their 1994 high of 194p, added that concern over recession in the housebuilding sector had been "overstated". It said stock market turbulence and high interest rates had yet to affect sales. Shares in the company rose 5p yesterday to 92p.

Bryant reported a 38 per cent rise in pre-tax profits from £39 million to £53 million for the year to May 31, while sales rose 4.8 per cent from £558 million to £586 million. Earnings per share rose 41 per cent from 9.3p to 13.1p and the total dividend rises from 5.05p to 5.30p.

The company said that both its building- and land-buying divisions had been held back by planning problems, while its poorly performing Country Homes division — which specialises in properties costing about £400,000 — had undergone a management shake-up.

Mr MacKenzie said the company had a well-balanced landbank and a wide geographical spread.

"With the current improvement in our average sales values and a stable average land plot cost, operating margins should be capable of further progress," he said. "We will continue to target volume growth if this can be achieved sensibly. Margin growth, however, remains the priority."

Tempus, page 30

Hodder in sales record

By Raymond Snoddy
Media Editor

HODDER Headline yesterday announced record results with the help of bestsellers such as Charles Frazier's *Cold Mountain* and Josephine Cox's *Miss You Forever*.

The publishing group increased pre-tax profits by 70 per cent to £2.2 million in the six months to the end of June, compared with £1.3 million in the same period last year. Earnings per share rose by 72 per cent to 4.3p. The interim dividend is lifted to 2.45p a share from 2.20p. Sales rose 19 per cent to £45.1 million.

The company also reduced net debt by 45 per cent to £4 million.

Tim Hely Hutchinson, Hodder Headline's group chief executive, said record results had been achieved through "our long-term strategy of vigorous investment in copyrights from the best authors".

Mr Hely Hutchinson promised a strong publishing list for the second half and "another year of good progress".

Hodder shares rose 10p to 250p.

Ibstock offers cheer to UK housebuilders

IBSTOCK, one of Britain's largest brickmakers, yesterday echoed the message from housebuilders that the slowdown in the British economy had not yet been felt (Chris Ayres writes).

The company, whose shares rose 3.5p to 43p yesterday, reported an 81 per cent rise in profits before tax and exceptionals for the half year to June 30 from £8.4 million to £15.3 million.

Philip Mengel, Ibstock's chief executive, said: "We just have not seen the recession yet. At this point we're planning for a very stable market."

An interim dividend of 0.85p, up from 0.75p, will be paid on December 1.

FSA sets out tough but 'flexible' rules for City

By Richard Miles

CLOSER scrutiny of management controls are at the heart of draft proposals published yesterday for City firms by the Financial Services Authority (FSA).

The watchdog, chaired by Howard Davies, has set out proposals for eight core principles which will form the framework for its regulation of banks, insurers and investment managers.

Describing the principles as at the "apex of the FSA rulebook", Mr Davies said he hoped they would be sufficiently flexible to permit product innovation, yet still offer protection to investors.

Most of the principles are straight replacements for similar requirements established by the Securities and Investments Board, the FSA's predecessor. But some have been updated in light of such investment scandals as the Peter Young affair at Morgan Grenfell Asset Management.

Principle 3 requires firms to make clear how responsibilities are apportioned among senior managers and calls for "adequate arrangements" to ensure the suitability of any individual to whom powers are delegated.

Other principles cover integrity, financial prudence, market conduct, customer relations and dealing with the regulators. The FSA enabling Bill is expected to be passed in 2000.



Davies: protecting investors

Airbus moves work to China

By Adam Jones

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE, the European aircraft consortium that is in the throes of restructuring, is to move some production to China in an effort to strengthen its position in the key Far Eastern market despite the recent financial problems in the region.

Airbus's decision to start manufacturing in China follows the collapse of plans to build a 100-seat plane in the country. It was not able to say what will be made in China yesterday but details will be released later this year.

Noel Forgeard, the Airbus chief executive, confirmed at the Farnborough International Air Show yesterday that Airbus will build a variation on its existing A319 single-aisle plane, called the A318. It will be a cheaper alternative to the aborted 100-seater.

M Forgeard also pledged that the restructuring of Airbus into a stand-alone company will most probably take place in mid-1999.

The four partners in Airbus — British Aerospace, Dasa of Germany, Aerospatiale of France and Casa of Spain — must first agree on the value of the assets each will contribute to the new company.

The battle between Airbus and Boeing will intensify if Airbus follows through on plans to develop a $10 billion (£6 billion) "super-jumbo" to go head to head with the Boeing 747.

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Mines group to take control of QNI and implement minority buyouts

Buyback plan lifts Billiton shares

By George Sivell

BILLITON, the mining group, is to make a £133 million offer for the 47 per cent of QNI, the Australian nickel producer, that it does not already own. The deal values QNI at £273 million.

Brian Gilbertson, chairman and chief executive of Billiton, said: "We think there are growth opportunities that we could exploit from a 100 per cent holding."

Billiton's ailing share price rose 4½p to 126½p yesterday after the company brought forward plans for a share buyback from next April and announced the buyout of minorities in Ingwe and Trans-Natal.

The mining group said that its planned 10 per cent share repurchase may begin once it has received shareholder approval on October 14. Details of the plans are to be sent to shareholders with the annual report. Billiton intends to hold the shares it buys back, rather than cancel them. They could be reissued if the group succeeds in making a big acquisition.

The market in Billiton shares is still recovering from an attempt by Kleinwort Benson to find buyers for a large block of shares being unloaded by Sanlam, the South African life insurer.

Billiton also announced a rise in net profits of 44 per cent, to $481 million (£294 million), in the year to June 30, topping a forecast made in mid-June that attributable earnings would be at least $455 million and coming near the top of brokers' forecasts of $464 million to $493 million.

The maiden total dividend for the year will be 10.5 cents after payment of a 7 cents final. Earnings before exceptional items rose 17 per cent, to 22.9 cents a share.

Mr Gilbertson said that the combination of a low currency and low commodity price had enabled the company to make an attractive offer for QNI. He added: "In the short term, I don't think any nickel producers are going to show great profit growth . . . but, in the long-term, I think this [acquisition] will give us very good value."

Mr Gilbertson said that the group's cash pile of more than $3 billion gives it the "financial firepower" to look at big acquisitions. However, although it looked at a number of possibilities over the past year, it had decided in each case that the time was not right. "I think that judgment has proved sound so far," he said. "But I would like to think that the time will come when we will judge the time to be right."

Mr Gilbertson said that the group had approved capital projects of $2.7 billion over the past year and would like to expand into copper and iron ore.

"But first and foremost, a major new investment has to meet the investment criteria and in these markets we can afford to look at them quite critically," he said.

On commodity prices, Mr Gilbertson said that it was hard to make a forecast. However, he added: "My feeling is that we are probably around the bottom of the trough at the moment."

Mr Gilbertson said that the decline in the share price was a "great disappointment" and was the result of both a general fall in commodity-based companies and "huge" sales out of South Africa. Some 20 per cent of the group's shares have moved from South Africa to London after changes in control exchange regulations.

On the share buyback, Billiton plans an "innovative scheme" to buy back 10 per cent of its shares and hold them rather than cancel them. "We will be able to use those shares to pursue other opportunities when the right ones arise," Mr Gilbertson added.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.91	2.73
Austria Sch	21.25	19.59
Belgium Fr	62.55	57.59
Canada $	2.659	2.471
Cyprus Cyp £	0.8924	0.8209
Denmark kr	11.55	10.66
Egypt	5.88	5.27
Finland Mkk	9.31	8.56
France Fr	10.13	9.35
Germany Dm	3.042	2.800
Greece Dr	520	481
Hong Kong $	13.76	12.66
Iceland	129	109
Ireland Pt	1.2009	1.1119
Israel Shk	6.82	6.16
Italy Lira	3018	2781
Japan Yen	233.80	216.27
Malta	0.672	0.613
Netherlds Gld	3.439	3.144
New Zealand $	3.41	3.17
Norway Kr	13.44	12.50
Portugal Esc	307.33	285.30
S Africa Rd	10.90	9.94
Spain Pta	255.89	237.04
Sweden Kr	14.03	12.99
Switzerland Fr	2.507	2.289
Turkey Lira	474032	442524
USA $	1.776	1.633

Rates for small denomination banknotes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Candover at double as fee income grows

CANDOVER, the venture capitalist, has reported a near-doubling of first-half profits to £6.2 million. Stephen Curran, chief executive, said that the sharp rise mainly reflected higher fee income after the establishment of the £850 million Candover 1997 fund. Mr Curran said the "uplift" of £26 million in Candover's earnings came almost entirely from investment gains on both realised and unrealised assets.

Realisations during the first half included the sale of Orion Publishing to Hachette and Castle Transmission International, 50 per cent of which was sold for cash and the remainder merged into Crown Castle International. At June 30, net assets per share were 821p, representing an increase of 16.8 per cent over the six months. This compares with an 13.8 per cent rise in the FTSE-all share index over the same period. Candover lifted its interim dividend 60 per cent to 8p, payable on October 22.

Glaxo drug approved

GLAXO WELLCOME has won its first marketing approval for Seretide, a new asthma drug that combines Serevent and Flixotide, two existing treatments. Sweden, whose Medical Products Agency gave the approval, will be the benchmark for securing further licences under the EU's mutual recognition procedure. Glaxo Wellcome claims that Seretide treats both the bronchoconstriction and the inflammation of the airways that characterise asthma. Serevent and Flixotide each had sales of £226 million in the first half of 1998.

Cadbury's Polish deal

CADBURY SCHWEPPES, the UK soft drinks and confectionary company, is buying the Polish chocolate-maker Wedel from Pepsico for more than £46 million. Wedel, which employs 1,100 people at a Warsaw factory, will be run in conjunction with Cadbury Poland and is intended to give Cadbury Schweppes the number one position in Poland, with a 28 per cent market share. Poland's chocolate market grew by an average of 17 per cent a year between 1990 and 1997, making it one of the largest in Europe, said Cadbury.

Photobition ahead

PHOTOBITION, the printing company, lifted pre-tax profits to £9.8 million in the 15 months to June 30, from £4.1 million in the 12 months to March 31 1997. Sales rose from £23.4 million to £57.7 million. Earnings per share rose from 5.23p to 11.17p, from which a total dividend of 1.88p will be paid. The shares responded by rising 13p, to 222p. Their high was 333p, in May. The board says that current trading is in line with expectations and that the company has seen no indications of a slowdown. The group is confident about the current year.

Adwest increases sales

ADWEST AUTOMOTIVE, the vehicle engineering group, raised operating profits from £18 million to £21.4 million in the year to June 30 on sales up from £191.4 million to £249.8 million. At the pre-tax level, however, profits fell from £14.3 million to £2.7 million because of a £13 million loss on goodwill from a disposal. Normalised earnings rose from 12.3p to 13.4p and the total dividend is held at 7.8p after payment of an unchanged 5½p final. The company said it was too early to make any comment on how the present year would turn out.

Eidos up on US buy

SHARES in Eidos, the computer games group, rose from 747½p to 772½p after it announced the acquisition of Crystal Dynamics, the loss-making games development studio based on America's West Coast, for $47.5 million (£28.4 million). Eidos believes the acquisition, financed out of cash resources, will be earnings enhancing in the year to March 31, 1999. Crystal Dynamics lost about £1 million in the year to March 31, 1998, on sales halved from £14.7 million to £7.6 million. In the previous year Crystal lost £2.3 million before tax.

Epic back in the black

EPIC MULTIMEDIA returned a profit of £223,000 before tax in the year May 31 on sales down from £4.1 million to £3.5 million. In the previous year Epic suffered a loss of £2.6 million. Losses per share of 11.24p recovered to earnings of 0.96p. Michael Inwards, chairman, said the company continued to benefit from a high level of repeat business from long-standing customers. The shares responded with a ½p rise to 15½p. The company has completed a capital restructuring that will enable the payment of dividends in the future.

WSP looks to expand

WSP, the consulting engineering group, raised pre-tax profits by 55 per cent to £2.25 million in the six months to June 30 on sales up 58 per cent to £32.5 million. Earnings rose 51.5 per cent to 5.0p and the half-year dividend rose 17 per cent to 1.4p. The company said it was actively seeking strategic acquisitions to broaden its base of operation and range of services. WSP said it was well-positioned to take advantage of opportunities in this country and overseas. The company hopes to repeat its first-half performance for the full year.

Mice profits leap 226%

MICE, the business support services group, raised pre-tax profits by 226 per cent to £1.16 million in the six months to June 30, on sales up 88 per cent to £16.3 million. Earnings rose 221 per cent to 0.45p out of which the interim dividend increases 67 per cent to 0.1p. The shares rose 1p to 18p yesterday. Michael Curley, the chairman, said: "We are considering further acquisitions to continually improve our service to clients." He added that orders for the second half of the year were continuing at a high level.

هكذا من الأصل

London waves in the breeze

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

Stock markets in the West are now firmly under the sway of what is happening in Asia and Russia, rather than what is happening at home. That turns life into an unpredictable switchback for investors.

Yesterday was a good day, thanks to Hong Kong. By August 28, its confident Government had won round one of its epic battle with the hedge funds, though at a heavy cost to reserves and to its non-interventionist reputation. Now it has launched a *powerful offensive* to start round two.

One flank was to crack down on rogue selling. The other was to use reserves to provide more back-up liquidity for banks within the currency board system. The Hang Seng index duly grew almost 8 per cent, up to its highest for two months. It appears to have managed that without the authorities having to buy shares, so adding to the profits the Monetary Authority has made in its guise as determined stock market investor. Left to its own devices on America's Labor Day holiday, *London tipped its hat East.* Even Tokyo *managed a smile.*

Fortunately, markets closed before Russia moved back up the agenda. The Duma voted to keep Russia without a proper Government for a while. The Governor of the central bank finally resigned. *The rouble fell.*

Hurricane Boris will therefore continue to blow. Even in the unlikely event of Viktor Chernomyrdin winning in an embarrassing third and final vote, it is hard not to share the IMF's doubts about a policy that seeks to combine a carefree printing of banknotes to give everyone their pay with a rigid, Hong Kong-style, currency board to impose iron discipline on money supply.

Self-help in the rest of Asia, as well as Japan, is vital to avoiding recession in the West. But Russia will bellow bearish sentiments for some while. How different things would look if the other G7 countries gave clear *signs of responding* to the threat, instead of hanging out in the Eastern breeze. There is hope.

Alan Greenspan of the Federal Reserve Board makes statements so Delphic that listeners can usually hear what they want to hear. But, given his good record, markets were right to deduce that his new talk of balanced risks might mean a cut in US interest rates in October or November. His detailed intentions are not really important. All we need to know is that the Fed is taking the threat of induced recession seriously.

Would that one could say the same thing about the Bundesbank or members of the Monetary Policy Committee, our own kindergarten version of the Fed.

Almost unanimously, fund managers now expect the next move in base rates to be down. The shrieks of pain from exporters and trade unionists may have permeated, persuading the MPC to sympathise by making their *first cut. Ironically, with the* pound now sliding, this is a week when they could legitimately plead the need to wait and see.

Ecstasy ahead for life-style drugs

Any day now, Viagra will receive approval from the UK drug licensing authorities, causing the National Health Service headaches that a bucket load of paracetamol could not cure. The over-stretched NHS will not be able to foot the bill to provide the drug to all who would like it and few would envy the medics who might be called upon to determine those who have a legitimate medical need, and, therefore, might argue they deserve NHS subsidy.

The American experience has indicated that Pfizer is guaranteed huge sales, whether or not the state contributes to the cost. But while Pfizer rakes in unforeseen *levels of profits from what* started out as a potential cure for angina, other companies are being forced to address the tricky question of how far their resources should be diverted into what might be called life-style drugs.

Glaxo Wellcome had been working on a similar product to Viagra, with the aim of helping angina sufferers. When it became apparent that it did not work on angina, although it did have some interesting side effects, Glaxo sold the project to an American company. If at that stage Glaxo was influenced by the idea that pharmaceutical companies were in the business solely of treating illness, then it is safe to say that that its thoughts are likely to have been changed by the Viagra experience.

If customers will pay for life-enhancing drugs, a whole range of new possibilities open up for the pharmaceuticals companies. Prozac is already being used by those who surely do not merit the *description of being clinically depressed.* How many more people might be interested in a mood enhancing pill that came with the assurance that it had been manufactured by a world class pharmaceuticals business?

In the wake of the Viagra success story, drug companies and their shareholders will have to confront that question and its implications. And so will the Government, for the NHS, already under pressure to fund an unprecedented level of treatment for an ever longer-living population, will face demands to add to the list of life-enhancing treatments that it will subsidise.

It is currently seeking a band-aid solution to the Viagra problem that it faces, possibly persuading all health authorities not to pay for the drug. Yet it now has the perfect opportunity to redefine the role of the NHS within its budgetary constraints. Lifestyle drugs should not come courtesy of the public purse.

Brown slips on politicians' curse

Chancellor Gordon Brown has been forced to acknowledge *a most depressing* political fact: ideas that make sense behind the closed doors of the Treasury may look less than brilliant in the real world. When he came to power, Mr Brown thought it would be a jolly good wheeze to squeeze more money out of the oil companies making *fortunes from the North Sea.* Having grabbed his windfall tax from the privatised utilities, oil companies may have appeared another target for whom there would be scant public sympathy.

But his plans for increasing the tax take have come up against a slump in the crude oil price and rising costs for those still intent on extracting the stuff from inhospitable parts. With the next round of licences now on offer, the prospect of higher taxes was hardly an encouragement to bidders.

So Mr Brown has bowed to the politicians' curse, events, and abandoned his plans. It would have been helpful to oil companies if he had said as much. Announcing that he will not be reforming the tax regime "*at this* stage" still leaves an element of uncertainty hanging over the industry. But, without a significant increase in oil prices, he cannot now impose higher taxes on the oil companies.

That marks the burying of one Budget bright idea. Now, perhaps, Mr Brown might encourage his colleagues to take a look at another unrealistic proposal *and put Isa on ice.*

Dangerous diversion

FOR years Jonathan Taylor has been presiding over a sinking ship. After a string of profit warnings, he has now issued the Mayday signal. David Simons looked *at throwing him a lifeline but,* understandably for someone with a cache of options to consider, he could only offer a short rope. Drowning men cannot meet their rescuers half way. The mystery is why John von Spreckelsen should now be attempting the rescue. The Budgens boss may be bored, but Booker could prove a dangerous diversion.

Burmah tries to play down exposure to Asia

By Martin Barrow

BURMAH CASTROL, the lubricants company, sought to dispel fears over its exposure to ailing Asian economies yesterday. Despite a fall in first-half profits the company promised *to go ahead with a proposed* £250 million capital return to shareholders in 1999 and said it would maintain a progressive dividend policy.

The company, whose shares have fallen from £13.30 to 920p since May, reported a 4 per cent *fall in pre-tax profits to* £121.6 million for the six months to June 30.

Reported profits were adversely affected by currency translation and on a constant basis would have been 14 per *cent higher than in the first* half of the previous year.

Tim Stevenson, chief executive, said: "This was a robust performance in difficult markets. The improvement in operating profit reflects the extent to which good results from our *principal business in most regions* have offset the sharp decline in consumer and industrial markets in South-East Asia."

The company's results were also affected by exceptional *items, with profits from disposals* partly offset by costs arising from the reorganisation of Castrol and the writing down of the value of a plant in Indonesia, leaving a net exceptional pre-tax profit of £30 million.

*At the operating level report-*ed profits fell 7 per cent to £126 million but on a constant currency basis would have been 5 per cent up on the first half of the previous year. Castrol oil volumes rose 3 per cent.

Mr Stevenson said trading conditions had deteriorated most acutely in Malaysia, Thailand and Japan. "We have taken firm action to reduce costs in these countries and our operations there are achieving a good level of profit*ability, albeit at lower levels* than in recent years." Marketing investment in China is being maintained.

In Europe and North America the industrial lubricants and principal chemicals businesses achieved good results and *improving margins.* However, the consumer lubricants business faced difficult conditions in Western Europe, especially in Germany, where demand remains weak and competition intense.

The consumer lubricants market in North America continues to be competitive but margins and market share have been maintained.

Burmah expects a further exceptional charge of £10 million against the reorganisation of the research and development operations of its construction products businesses.

Earnings fell 2.5 per cent to 31.5p a share but the interim dividend is maintained at 14p a share, paid as a foreign income dividend.

Tempus, page 30

NICK RAY



Tim Stevenson reported a 4 per cent drop in interim pre-tax profits at Burmah Castrol

Bodycote price lifted by results

SHARES in Bodycote International, the metal components processor, jumped 47.5p yesterday to 985p on news that it increased pre-tax profits by 65 per cent (Robert Cole writes).

Taxable profits for the half-year to June 30 were *£37.8 million, against* £22.9 million last time. Organic profits growth accounted for the lion's share.

John Chesworth, managing director, said: "With 161 plants offering a wide range of metallurgical processes ... *in 17 countries and 127 cur*rencies Bodycote is in a good position to make further progress despite uncertainties ... in the engineering sector."

Earnings per share rose from 18.7p to 26.3p. The dividend is up 33 per cent to 4.25p.

Tempus, page 30

British Vita in agreed £65.9m Doeflex bid

By Paul Durman

BRITISH VITA is strengthening its plastics business with an agreed £65.9 million takeover of Doeflex.

Jim Mercer, Vita's chief executive, said the deal would take the group into important markets, such as those for high impact polystyrene and the Benelux countries. He said Doeflex represented an "outstanding opportunity" — the smaller company has been investing *heavily and had created a "su*perb" plastic manufacturing facility in Redhill.

Vita is offering 375p a share, almost 60 per cent above the price at which Doeflex shares were trading before it recently announced it was in takeover talks. Doeflex's directors, who control 21.5 per cent of the shares, gave irrevocable undertakings to accept the bid, which is worth £9.6 million to Richard Bickerton, the chairman, and his family. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, acting for Vita, spent £18.9 million to *acquire a further 28.5 per cent,* effectively securing the deal.

Shares in Vita, which have collapsed from 342p in May, rallied 16½p to 230p. The group has spent £154 million on acquisitions since April.

Vita also reported a 15 per *cent rise in first-half profits to* £36.8 million. Sales were 9 per cent ahead at £418.7 million.

In the industrial polymers division margins fell from 8 to 7.7 per cent as Vita sacrificed profit in favour of market share.

The interim dividend rises from 4.25p to 4.5p a share.

Tempus, page 30

Forth Ports up 17%

FORTH PORTS, the company *that landed the* Royal Yacht ***Britannia*** as a visitor attraction to its Leith port near Edinburgh, raised pre-tax profits by 17 per cent to £12.9 million in the six months to the end of June (George *Sivell writes).*

Turnover at Leith, and Forth's six other ports, rose by 12 per cent to £50.2 million and earnings rose 10 per cent to 21.0p. The half-year dividend rises 11 per cent to 5.0p.

Bill Thomson, chairman, said: "We anticipate that ***Britannia*** will become a significant visitor attraction in Leith towards the end of this year." On trading he said: "We are well placed to withstand any economic downturn."

Shares in Forth rose 7½p to 502½p.

Dewhirst shares slide 23% after profits warning

By Fraser Nelson

SHARES of Dewhirst group fell by 23 per cent yesterday after the Marks & Spencer clothing supplier forecast its first profits decrease for six years.

The company said that lower demand from M&S was combining with the costs of establishing an overseas production base to hit margins. It added that operating profits would be "marginally lower".

The City took this to mean that M&S itself could be up against stiff trading conditions, and shares of the retailing group dropped 8.5p to 519.5p in a rising market.

Dewhirst shares, meanwhile, fell 24p to 105.5p.

Tim Dewhirst, chairman, said the downturn had hit the company over June and July after a relatively successful four months of trading. This reduced margins by a full point, to 6.8 per cent.

Overall, pre-tax profits were £13 million (from £14.2 million) leaving earnings of 6.81p (7.41p) per share for the six months to July 17. However, the interim dividend rises to 1.45p (1.4p), due November 6.

City analysts were alarmed at the speed of the slowdown, but most expect Dewhirst to overcome the problems in the medium term.

Most analysts now forecast a pre-tax profit of £28 million for the full year, against £37 million expected before the announcement.

Alexon to open new shops after strong first half

By Fraser Nelson

ALEXON, the recovering retailer of women's wear, is to open 12 more Ann Harvey and Kaliko stores over the next 12 months after returning strong half-year results despite tough conditions on the high street.

The company, which owns 45 Ann Harvey shops and 19 Kaliko, said yesterday that current conditions are "well above plan". It added that Dolcis, the shoe retailer in which Alexon has invested £6 million of working capital, is making a rapid recovery, although the division made an operating loss of £4.39 million at the half-way stage.

Alexon's shares jumped 9½p to 197p yesterday as analysts said that they were impressed that it has avoided the worst of summer's retail downturn.

Alexon's wholly owned shops made operating profits of £6.49 million, up from £5.4 million, in the half to August 1. After factoring in Dolcis's results, group pre-tax profit fell to £2.92 million (£5.61 million).

The company said this drop was artificial, because Dolcis is 100 per cent owned by Electra Fleming, the venture capital firm, leaving Alexon protected from any operating loss it may make. Alexon manages Dolcis, and has a right to buy it in 18 months' time if its recovery is going to plan.

Headline earnings . were 8.81p a share (7.52p). Again, there is no interim dividend.

Biotech firms break out of gloom

By Paul Durman

AFTER a long and miserable summer, the UK biotechnology sector was yesterday buoyed by a series of positive developments as Chiroscience named a Japanese marketing partner, Vanguard Medica announced that it was working with Roche on a new kidney drug and Xenova secured additional funding of £9.6 million.

Shares in Vanguard jumped by 48½p to 360p — almost twice their low at the end of July. Vanguard *is to develop a Roche* compound to produce a drug to prevent acute renal failure, a problem for many people who require surgery. Initial optimistic estimates suggested that this project could eventually be worth tens of millions of pounds a year for the loss-making Guildford company.

Chiroscience will receive an initial £3.25 million from Maruishi Pharmaceutical Co, which will develop its long-lasting local anaesthetic for the Japanese market.

Xenova, which originally looked for £20 million of funding, is having to issue four shares and two warrants for every five existing shares. The implied price of about 55p is barely a quarter of the flotation price in late 1996, and an even smaller fraction of last year's high of 435p. Xenova hopes next year to raise a further £6.7 million through the warrants priced at 70p.

David Oxlade, Xenova's chief executive, said: "This is an important achievement *in what can only be described as the worst* climate for raising money for biotech for a very long time."

PPL Therapeutics, the company best known for its role in cloning Dolly the sheep, will also need to raise more money in the next nine months, since it ended June with only £12.6 million. Its first-half *losses grew to £6.7 million (£5 million)* because of increased research costs.

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STOCK MARKET



MICHAEL CLARK
Stock Market Writer of the Year

Colt gallops forward to join London's top 100

COLT TELECOM has never made a penny profit. Even so, the shares surged 39p to 566½p valuing the entire company at £3.2 billion making it Britain's 81st biggest company in terms of capitalisation.

As a result, later this week, it will become a constituent of the FTSE 100 index, thereby attracting the support of the powerful tracker funds.

Such a move is likely to catapult Colt shares even higher although they will have to work hard to reach the record high of 832p attained earlier this year. The FTSE International committee meets tomorrow to discuss promotions and relegations.

Colt is likely to take the place of **Enterprise Oil**, steady at 350p. Rival oil company **Lasmo**, down 3p at 155p, made an early exit from the FTSE 100 yesterday. It was forced out to make way for the BAT demerger. BAT becomes BAT Industries and Allied Zurich, both of which automatically qualify for a place in FTSE. Curiously, rival **Imperial Tobacco**, unchanged at 520p, is ranked 91st, having raced up from a low of 385p this year. It is on the brink of FTSE 100 membership. Others battling it out for promotion include takeover target **Southern Electric**, 22p dearer at 582p (91st), **Securicor**, up 27p at 474p (92nd), **Sema Group**, up 17p at 600p (93rd), **Gallaher**, 22¼p higher at 400p (95th), **Anglian Water**, 7½p lighter at 807½p (97th), and **Dixons**, 1p dearer at 560p (98th).

However, a fresh air of optimism swept the City after hints of a softening of US interest rates on Friday from Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve. His comments proved timely bearing in mind tomorrow's meeting of the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee.

This bullish view of interest rates also spilled over into Tokyo and Hong Kong overnight where the Hang Seng surged nearly 600 points and the Nikkei 225 was up 747 points. This provided the ideal springboard for trading in London where the FTSE 100 index raced ahead in thin trading conditions.

London managed to close just below its best of the day. It finished 180.0 up at 5,347.0. Total turnover was a meagre 735 million shares.

Spare a thought for the poor punter who asked his broker to pick up a parcel of shares in **Abbey National** "at best". Because of the peculiarities of SETS, the Stock Exchange's computerised trading system, he got 12,661 shares at £12. This compared with the ruling market price at the time of £11.25. Abbey National closed 47p dearer at £11.40.

Elsewhere in the banking sector, interest rate optimism lifted **Barclays** 78p to £13.08, **Lloyds TSB** 54½p to 713p, and **NatWest Bank** 18p to 957p.

HSBC surged 113p to £12.43 on the back of the overnight surge in the former colony. Also benefiting from the support overnight in the Far East, **Standard Chartered** rose 30½p to 448p, and **Cable & Wireless** 44p to 627p.

Booker dropped 18p to 170p after confirming it is in merger talks with the **Budgens** supermarket chain, 1p lighter at 75¼p, to create a food distribution group with annual sales of £5 billion. The news failed to impress the City. It will be an all-paper deal, but with Booker shares down from a peak of 353p, this year, it will not hold much appeal.

Only a few weeks ago, merger talks between **Somerfield**, 12p better at 432½p, and Booker broke down after both sides failed to agree a price. Somerfield was yesterday enjoying the move by BT Alex Brown, the broker, to raise its profit projection for the current year by 3.5 per cent.

Terms of the agreed bid by **British Vita**, the plastics company, lifted **Doeflex** 21p to 365½p. The terms worth 375p a share value Doeflex at almost £66 million. British Vita firmed 16½p to 230p on the back of half-year results.

Alexon firmed 9½p to 197p with the help of a "long-term buy" recommendation from Merrill Lynch, the broker, while a "buy" recommendation from Société Générale Securities, the broker, was also positive for **Bass**, 54p better at 870p.

Michael Owen's star continues to shine for **Eidos**, 30p higher at 777½p. The Liverpool striker has been signed up by the computer games specialist to market a series of football games. According to Credit Lyonnais, the broker, Eidos is still a "buy".

☐ **GILT EDGED:** The bullish comments from Alan Greenspan over the weekend cheered the bond market and prompted early gains, particularly at the short end. Generally, trading conditions remained thin with most investors anxious to see the outcome of this week's meeting of the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee before committing themselves.

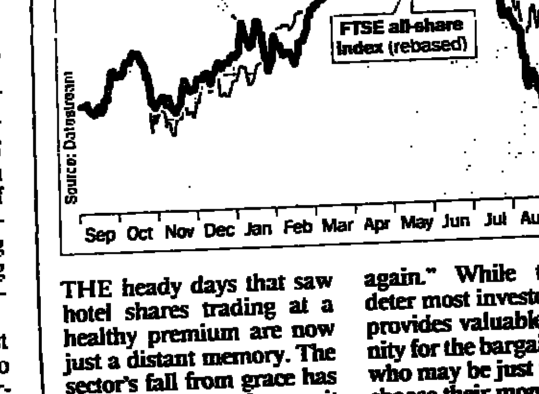
In the futures pit, the December series of the long gilt finished £0.36 up at £112.62 in thin turnover that saw just 27,000 contracts completed. The short gilt finished £0.25 firmer at £105.62 without a single contract traded. Among conventional issues, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 rose £11/32 to £136 15/16, while at the shorter end Treasury 7 per cent 2002 was £¼ better at £103.31.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street was closed for Labor Day.

☐ **Because of problems at our suppliers, the Liffe Options quoted are Friday's.**



Calvin O'Connor, left, finance director and Jim Mercer of British Vita, who announced a cash offer for Doeflex



THE heady days that saw hotel shares trading at a healthy premium are now just a distant memory. The sector's fall from grace has been as spectacular as it has been steep with it now trading at its lowest level since 1992, relative to the rest of the market.

BT Alex Brown, the broker, has just published a review of the sector that suggests that difficult times lie ahead.

According to Mark Finnie at BTAB: "Share prices are not just discounting recession, they are assuming 1991 all over again." While this may deter most investors, it also provides valuable opportunity for the bargain hunters who may be just waiting to choose their moment.

Mr Finnie likes the look of Granada, up 7p at 837p, which has now fallen from a peak of £12.08, so far, this year. He is also a buyer of Ladbroke, 8½p better at 236½p, and down from a high of 360p.

His other tip is Millennium & Copthorne Hotels, 1p firmer at 363½p, which is another heavy faller having come down from a high of 619p.

MAJOR INDICES

New York:	
Dow Jones	Closed
S&P Composite	--
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	14790.06 (+747.15)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	8076.76 (+588.29)
Amsterdam:	
AEX Index	1076.22 (-3.53)
Sydney:	
AO	2569.2 (+65.2)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	4923.37 (+103.12)
Singapore:	
Straits	862.10 (+57.06)
Brussels:	
BEL20	3312.71 (+20.92)
Paris:	
CAC-40	3695.35 (+2.11)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	1322.0 (+17.0)
London:	
FT 30	3380.6 (+96.3)
FTSE 100	5347.0 (+180.0)
FTSE 250	4747.1 (+83.8)
FTSE 350	2549.9 (+78.7)
FTSE Eurotop 100	2555.83 (+56.20)
FTSE All-Share	2470.19 (+73.25)
FTSE Non Financials	2545.54 (+68.86)
FTSE Fixed Interest	148.25 (+1.11)
FTSE Govt Secs	108.43 (+0.20)
Bargains	54511
SEAQ Volume	735.3m
US$	1.6685 (-0.0051)
German Mark	2.8795 (-0.0234)
Exchange Index	103.4 (-0.9)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.4613
£:SDR	1.2325
RPI	163.0 Jul (3.5%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	160.5 Jul (2.6%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Chaucer A	12½	...
Coca-Cola(160)	165½	+ 7½
Enterprise Cap B Pf	55½	...
Firestone Diamonds	84½	...
GBIGT Secs Zero Div	167¼	...
GEC Put Wts	93½	...
Gart Br Inc & Gwth	48½	...
Gartmore Br Inc	87½	...
Gartmore New Inc	86	+ 1
Inter Link Foods	99½	...
Kiln	122½	...
MEPC Non Cum Pf B	96½	...
Metnor Grp	112½	...
Murray Ext Rtn Cap	17½	+ ½
Murray Ext Rtn Inc	107½	...
Murray Ext Zero Dv	99½	...
Parallel Pictures	28½	...
Private & Comm Fin	64	...
Sodra Petroleum	37½	...
SupaRule	90½	...
Syndct Cp Wts 98/02	22½	...
Torotrak	163½	+ 1
Tribune IT Index	516	+ 10
Walker Greenbank B	33	...
Wilmslow Group	2½	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Cadoro n/p (35)	009	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Micro Focus	370p (+52½p)
Vanguard	360p (+48½p)
Blacks Leis	207p (+23½p)
Durban	145p (+15½p)
GEC	469p (+42p)
Vodafone	805p (+69p)
Real Time	385p (+32½p)
Lloyds TSB	713p (+54½p)
Smithkline	762p (+57p)
Br Vita	230p (+16½p)
Cable Wireless	627p (+44p)
FALLS:	
Courtaulds Text	165p (-20p)
Booker	170p (-18p)
Abbey	230p (-20p)
Northern Rock	508p (-15p)
Rentokil Intl	347p (-9p)
Reckitt Colm	919p (-21p)
Boots	980p (-20p)

Closing Prices Page 35

TEMPUS

Asia and beyond

TAKE Asia and oil together and you have a heady cocktail of uncertainty. The oil price stays stubbornly depressed and Asian economies, rocked by currency crises, are grim. Burmah Castrol is heavily exposed to both, which explains the recent underperformance of its shares. Since May the shares have fallen from a record £13.25 to the current 930p but what is perhaps more surprising is that the shares ever scaled the heady heights in the first place. The collapse of some of Asia's biggest economies was evident before Burmah shares peaked four months ago.

Burmah spent much of the early 1990s building up market share in Asia and the popularity of its shares was based largely on its success in doing so. It was liked for marketing in countries like Taiwan and Malaysia, and respected for convincing consumers there to pay premium prices. Burmah's Asian success story has featured prominently in City presentations for a number of years. Not yesterday. Instead, Tim Stevenson, chief executive, chose to underline the company's global strength in adversity. Volumes, encouragingly, are up 3 per cent in the half year just reported. And while Malaysia and Thailand have been dreadful and some Western markets have suffered, it is not all hopeless. China still looks good and India has emerged as a real star in the Burmah portfolio.

Shareholders can take comfort from Burmah's decision to press ahead with the £250 million of capital distribution in 1999. Also the commitment to increase the total dividend means the shares trade on a prospective yield of 5.8 per cent. Hold.

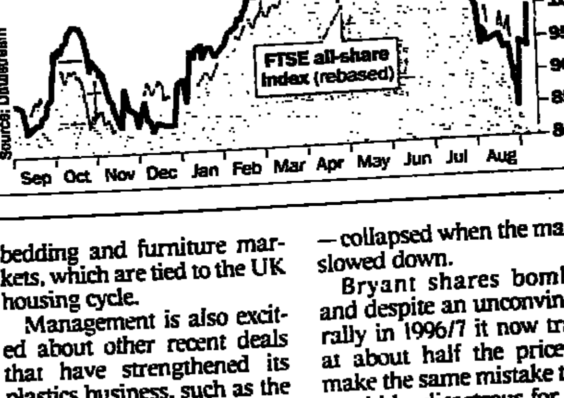
Bodycote

JOHN CHESWORTH, the managing director of Bodycote International, disarmingly describes the business he runs as a laundry. It takes multifarious bits of metal, for use in anything from hedgetrimmers to aero-engines, and treats them with heat or chemicals to make them harder wearing. Bodycote then returns the bits of metal to the basher whence they came.

It sounds like exactly the sort of engineering company to steer clear of in these unsettling times. But while doubts about Bodycote's marketplace are justified, the company's strengths should not be ignored.

Comfort is provided by the range of Bodycote's customer base, both industrially and geographically. Bodycote can also draw advantage from outsourcing because its speciality is exactly the sort of function companies want to farm out. Cost cutting in recession may help the trend. Bodycote's fragmented competition also provides room for acquisition and means Bodycote can replace supplement fading opportunities.

Investors cannot make up their minds about Bodycote. As a result its shares have tried, but failed, to break out and outperform the average on several occasions. At 985p, up 47½p yesterday, the shares trade on a multiple to 1998 full-year earnings per share a little short of 20. That is a fair price for a fair business whose shares are worth holding on to.



British Vita

THE acquisition of Doeflex and a 15 per cent improvement in first-half profits put British Vita in confident mood yesterday. The spirit, however, has not been reflected in the recent share price performance. As the chemicals sector has fallen heavily out of favour, shares in this foam and plastics group have been dragged down from 342p in May to 230p.

Vita admits that it is impossible to predict the impact of the turmoil afflicting many of the world's economies. However, with the vast majority of its business in the UK and Europe, Vita looks better protected against a downturn than many.

As with Bodycote the breadth of Vita's markets is comforting. The addition of Doeflex, which has invested heavily to build a strong position in some attractive niches, will continue the process of reducing Vita's traditional exposure to the bedding and furniture markets, which are tied to the UK housing cycle.

Management is also excited about other recent deals that have strengthened its plastics business, such as the acquisition of Hyperlast in the UK and its increased stake in its US associate.

Vita is forecast to make about £72 million this year and £78 million next. That puts the shares on no more than 10 times next year's earnings. Buy.

Bryant

LISTENING to Bryant talk yesterday of "overstated" concern about the health of the British economy brought back unpleasant memories of 1994.

Then, when the housebuilder's shares traded at 194p each, it began building houses ahead of demand, to cope with what seemed like a rapidly growing market. The foundatations of this plan — shared by many of its rivals — collapsed when the market slowed down.

Bryant shares bombed, and despite an unconvincing rally in 1996/7 it now trades at about half the price. To make the same mistake twice would be disastrous for both Bryant's management and its share price. So the optimism displayed yesterday by Andrew MacKenzie, Bryant's chief executive, is worrying.

Bryant may, of course, be right this time. It would be well served by a quick cut in interest rates, and that possibility while slim, is not out of the question. But even if we avoid recession Bryant, in common with many such companies, will have to run hard to keep ahead.

At 91½p Bryant's shares are worth only 6.3 times forecast earnings. They are certainly cheap, but without a clear demonstration that the company has constructed a safety net for its investors, they are no bargain.

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Sep	1039-1030	Dec	1166 SLR
Dec	1066-1066	Mar	unq
Mar	1094-1092	May	...
May	1112 SLR	Jul	...
Jul	1130 SLR		
Sep	1150 SLR	Volume:	1415

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Sep	1686-1683	May	1570-1567
Nov	1669-1667	Jul	1568 SLR
Jan	1615-1612	Sep	unq
Mar	1686-1685	Volume:	2893

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		May	240.0-39.1
Spot: 233.1		Aug	246.5-44.0
Oct	228.1-27.8	Oct	248.0-44.0
Dec	229.0-29.3	Dec	253.0-46.0
Mar	234.5-34.1	Volume	3640

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on September 4

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	38.07	87.47	81.43
(+/-)	-2.67	+0.91	-0.95
Eng/Wales	38.07	87.33	81.15
(+/-)	-2.67	+0.54	-0.82
(%)	+7.0	+44.0	+62.0
Scotland	unq	88.49	90.44
(+/-)		+3.31	-0.36
(%)		+15.0	+18.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	12.55	-0.40
Brent 15 day (Oct)	13.05	-0.35
Brent 15 day (Nov)	13.35	-0.25
W Texas Intermediate (Oct)	Closed	--
W Texas Intermediate (Nov)	--	--

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	142 (-1)	147 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	117 (n/c)	119 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	57 (n/c)	60 (n/c)
Naphtha	112 (+2)	116 (+3)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Sep	114.75-15.00	Dec	125.00-25.25
Oct	118.75-19.00	Jan	127.75-28.25
Nov	121.75-22.00		Vol: 8389

BRENT (6.00pm)

Oct	13.03-13.05	Jan	n/a
Nov	13.33-13.34	Feb	n/a
Dec	13.59-13.62		Vol: 16742

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)

Sep	71.35
Nov	72.60
Jan	74.60
Mar	75.90
May	77.90
Volume:	172

LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)

Sep	70.00
Nov	71.25
Jan	73.25
Mar	75.15
May	76.15
Volume:	29

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	80.0
Mar		116.5
Apr	165.0	164.0
		Volume: 49

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Oct 46.75-47.25

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Sep 98	unq	--	964
Oct 98	950	945	950
Nov 98	965	965	965
Jan 99	unq	--	983
Vol: 42 lots		Open Interest: 1652	

Index 830 +3

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) — Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1657.0-1658.0	1676.0-1677.0	136o275
Lead ($/tonne)	529.00-529.50	539.00-539.50	80050
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1026.0-1026.5	1049.0-1049.5	347400
Tin ($/tonne)	5490.0-5500.0	5360.0-5365.0	30895
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1395.0-1395.5	1416.0-1416.5	1594100
Nickel ($/tonne)	4265.0-4275.0	4315.0-4325.0	134952

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Oct	Jan	Apr	Puts Oct	Jan	Apr
ASDA	180	14	22	27½	7½	12	16
(*185½)	200	6	13	18½	19	23	27
Abbey Nat	1050	89	137½	161	42	71	91
(*1088)	1100	63½	113½	136½	66	96	115
Alld Dom	500	28½	42	54	21½	41	47
(*501½)	550	10½	22	35	54	72½	78
BAA	600	35	59½	69½	26½	46½	47
(*602½)	650	15	40½	47½	56½	75	79½
BAT Ind	550	50	70	--	21	43	--
(*575)	600	26	46	--	46½	69	--
Barclays	1200	87	147	--	55½	94	--
(*1222½)	1250	62	122½	149½	80½	119½	146
Bass	780	57½	--	--	28	--	--
(*803½)	845	33	--	--	58½	--	--
Boots	1000	54	87	112	44½	72	78
(*1004½)	1050	33	66½	89½	72	99	104
Br Airways	420	35½	58	73	21½	37	44
(*431½)	460	20½	40	54½	44½	58½	67
BP	750	53	80	101	28½	50½	65½
(*768)	800	29½	56	77	54½	75	90½
Br Steel	100	11½	15	18½	3½	9	12½
(*106)	110	6½	10½	14	8	14½	18
C&W	550	64	93	114½	26	47	56½
(*582)	600	47	69	92	48½	73	82½
CGU Plc	900	56½	98	117	41	66½	87
(*908)	950	35	73½	93½	69½	92½	113
GlaxoW	1800	125½	207½	252½	96	151½	183½
(*1810)	1900	83½	163½	204½	151	203½	234½
HSBC	1100	102½	159	186	60½	100½	132½
(*1131½)	1150	78½	135½	161½	84½	126½	158
Halifax	700	55	89½	108	29	51½	69½
(*730½)	750	31½	65½	83½	56	77	94½
ICI	550	62	92½	106	21	41	54½
(*585)	600	35½	69	82½	43½	66	79½
Land Sec	850	71½	102½	124	17½	40	47½
(*898)	900	44	77	98	41	63	70
M&S	500	45½	60	73	16	28½	35½
(*526)	550	19	35	49	38	50½	60
Nat Pwr	500	41½	56½	69	18½	35	42
(*516)	550	18	33	46½	45½	62½	69½
Nat West	900	79½	121½	144½	36	67½	85½
(*937½)	950	53	97	120	57½	92	110
Reed Intl	460	47	71	84	15	28	39½
(*488½)	500	25	51	64½	31½	47½	59
Reuters	472	45	--	--	18	--	--
(*493½)	530	19	--	--	43½	--	--
Ryl&SunA	500	38	59½	81	25½	39½	63½
(*506)	550	17½	38	60	55½	68	92
Safeway	300	31½	42	50½	8½	17½	24
(*331)	330	14	27	35½	21½	31½	37
Sainsbury	500	42	60½	76	15	28	38½
(*526)	550	16½	37½	53½	41	53½	64
Shell	360	21	36	46	20½	31½	36½
(*361)	390	10½	23½	33½	38½	48	51
SmKl Bch	700	50½	87	114½	57½	93½	107
(*707)	750	29½	64	91½	[illegible]	44	58
Std Char	390	53½	81	92	36½	57½	74
(*417)	420	38½	58	78	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Thames W	1059	65	100½	122	29	58	65½
(*1082½)	1114	38	71½	92½	56½	84½	91½
Vodafone	700	80½	108½	132½	35½	52	64
(*776½)	750	57½	87	109	59	77½	90
Woolwich	324	18	--	--	17½	--	--
(*326½)	354	6½	--	--	35½	--	--
Zeneca	2100	172	252½	314½	84	128	165
(*2188½)	2200	120½	203½	265½	129½	177½	213
(*184)	200	13	20	25	25½	31½	35
Tesco	167	12½	18½	--	11½	16	--
(*167)	183	6½	12½	--	21	25½	--
Utd Bisc	193	15½	21	--	14½	14	--
(*197½)	216	7	11½	--	29½	28	--

Series		Calls Nov	Feb	May	Puts Nov	Feb	May
BTR	127	12½	--	--	11	--	--
(*130½)	152	4½	--	--	28	--	--
Blue Circ	260	27	36½	41½	12½	16½	22½
(*276½)	280	16½	26½	31½	22	26	32½
Br Aero	360	47½	67½	75½	19	30½	36½
(*384)	390	32	54	61½	33½	46	51½
Br Telcm	750	68	91	112	34	52	66½
(*773)	800	43½	66	87½	53	76½	86½
Cadbury	800	63½	91	112	41	59½	76
(*815½)	850	41	66	88	68½	82½	101½
Carlton Cms	390	33	53½	60½	24½	34	42½
(*396)	420	20	39	47	41½	50	58½
Diageo	550	60	80	92	26	39	49½
(*580½)	600	35	56	67	50½	64½	74½
Energy Gp	800	43	--	--	10½	--	--
(*840)	850	1½	--	--	--	--	--
Gallaher	360	34½	45½	54	19½	28½	34
(*379½)	390	20½	31½	40	35	44	49½
GEC	420	35	53½	61	[illegible]	[illegible]	41½
(*423)	460	19½	36	44	49½	59½	65
Hanson	300	36½	44	48½	8	14½	18
(*324)	330	22	29	33	22½	29½	35
Imp Tob	500	46	57½	68	20½	35½	42
(*519½)	550	23	33½	45½	34	45	52
Kingfshr	500	39½	58½	68½	34	43	62
(*503)	525	28½	46	--	48	56	--
Lasmo	160	13	22½	30½	18½	21½	22
(*164)	180	4½	16	23	30	33½	35
Ladbroke	220	23	35	40	17	25	30
(*227)	240	14½	26	31½	28½	36	41
LucasVar	200	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
(*202½)	220	12½	15	19½	24	29½	31
P&O	650	54	81	89½	31	43	54½
(*679½)	700	30½	56½	65½	57	68	80½
Prudentl	800	83½	104	124½	43	57½	66½
(*836½)	850	59	79½	99½	68	82½	90½
Rio Tinto	600	49	69	81	42	58	73
(*606½)	650	29½	48½	61½	72½	86	103½
R-Royce	180	20½	28	33½	17½	20	22½

Series		Calls Oct	Jan	May	Puts Oct	Jan	May
Abb&Leic	850	50½	82½	109½	45	66	85½
(*852½)	900	30	60½	87	75	94	113

Series		Calls Sep	Dec	Mar	Puts Sep	Dec	Mar
BG	330	28½	42	53½	1½	16½	20½
(*356)	360	8½	28½	39	12	28½	34½
BSkyB	460	13½	38	52	15½	29	37
(*462½)	500	2	21	35	42	51½	59½
Br Bio	35	5½	9½	12½	1½	5	7
(*38½)	40	1	7½	11	4	8	10
Centrica	90	5½	11½	13½	4½	8	10
(*91½)	100	2	7	9	12½	14½	15½
Dixons	550	21	51½	66	10	29½	42½
(*560)	600	3	30	42	42½	57	69½
EMI	390	36½	62	72	6½	23½	33½
(*416)	420	19½	47	58	21½	38½	48½
Granada	800	49	87½	108½	8	36½	59½
(*832½)	850	22	63	84	36½	65½	84½
GUS	700	46	83	104½	9	31½	48
(*739½)	750	15	56	80	24	53½	75
Lloyds TSB	650	31	74½	100	18	53	75
(*681½)	700	10½	51½	75	47½	83	100
Lonrho	224	29	--	--	1½	--	--
(*242½)	256	2	--	--	14½	--	--
Norwich	390	32	54	68	6½	29	37
(*413½)	420	15½	39½	55	19½	44	52
Orange	550	41½	84	104	17	48½	61
(*570)	600	19½	61½	82	46½	73	86½
Railtrck	1400	57½	133	183	27½	93	117
(*1428)	1450	31½	116½	159	50½	116½	142
Scot Pwr	600	23	54½	70	13½	34½	48½
(*609½)	650	4½	32½	48	45	61½	76½
Tarmac	70	8	13	16	1	5	9
(*77½)	80	2	9	12	3	13½	17½
Tomkins	240	6½	22	31	3	12½	17½
(*240½)	260	1	13½	22½	21½	25½	29
Unilever	550	22	52	69½	9½	34½	43½
(*562)	600	3	30	47	40½	61	70½

September 4 Total: 16987 Calls: 7209 Puts: 11778

FTSE INDEX (*5155)

Strike	Calls Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Puts Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
5000	258½	376½	476½	555½	805	84	190	258	293	502
5050	222½	346	448	528	--	99½	205½	279	320	--
5100	189	316½	419½	500	751½	115	227½	300	342	545
5150	161	287½	390½	471½	--	136½	248	320½	363	--
5200	132½	258	361½	442	697½	161½	268½	341	384½	596
5250	107	228½	332½	414½	--	184	293½	362	406	--
5300	86½	202½	302½	386	643½	214	314½	383	428	632½
5350	66	180½	278½	358½	--	245	343	410	453½	--

September 4 Total: 4809 Calls: 770 Puts: 4039 *Underlying security price

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Sep 98	112.10	112.48	112.09	112.39	405
Previous open interest 160373	Dec 98	112.15	112.80	112.15	112.62	26798
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Sep 98	112.88	113.10	112.38	112.79	1513
Previous open interest 21046	Dec 98	112.02	112.15	111.80	111.95	460
Five Year Gilt	Sep 98	105.60	105.60	105.47	105.46	197
Previous open interest 2465	Dec 98				105.62	0
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Dec 98	109.60	109.85	109.28	109.73	8606
Previous open interest 74181	Mar 99				109.73	0
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Sep 98	135.51	135.57	135.49	135.58	944
	Dec 98	135.41	135.48	135.40	135.47	1609
Three Mth Sterling	Sep 98	92.470	92.490	92.460	92.470	18463
	Dec 98	92.810	92.850	92.790	92.815	31986
Previous open interest 1184143	Mar 99	93.140	93.200	93.140	93.170	21262
Three Mth Euromark	Sep 98	96.490	96.510	96.490	96.500	20857
Previous open interest 2727021	Dec 98	96.380	96.400	96.370	96.395	42842
Three Mth Eurolira	Sep 98	95.010	95.050	95.000	95.040	10230
Previous open interest 803701	Dec 98	96.170	96.230	96.160	96.230	17543
Three Mth Euroswiss	Sep 98	98.330	98.370	98.320	98.370	3662
Previous open interest 222981	Dec 98	98.230	98.310	98.210	98.280	11808
Three Mth Euro	Sep 98	95.840	95.850	95.840	95.840	537
Previous open interest 34502	Dec 98	96.290	96.290	96.290	96.290	13
FTSE 100	Sep 98	5280.0	5380.0	5265.0	5358.0	23801
Previous open interest 219973	Dec 98	5380.0	5450.0	5358.0	5431.0	3604

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 7½ Finance Hse 8
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 8½ Low 7½ Week fixed: 7½
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 7⅛ ; 3 mth 7⅛ . Sell: 2 mth 6⅞ ; 3 mth: 6⅞ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	7½-7⅞	7½-7⅜	7⅞-7⅝	7⅝-7½	
Sterling Money Rates:	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜	7⅝-7½	7½-7⅜
Interbank:	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜	7⅝-7½	7½-7⅜
Overnight: open 7⅛, close 8½					
Local Authority Deps:	7⅛	n/a	7⅛	7½	7½
Sterling CDs:	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜	7⅝-7½	7⅝-7½	7½-7⅜
Dollar CDs:	5.54	n/a	5.52	5.49	5.41
Building Society CDs:	7½-7½	7⅝-7½	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅝	7½-7⅜

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅝-5½	5⅝-5½	5⅝-5½	5⅝-5½	5½-4¾
Deutschemark:	3⅝-3½	3½-3⅜	3½-3⅜	3⅝-3½	4-3
French Franc:	3½-3⅜	3⅝-3½	3½-3⅜	3⅝-3½	3½-2½
Swiss Franc:	1½-1⅜	1⅝-1½	1½-1⅜	1⅝-1½	2½-1½
Yen:	⅜-¼	⅜-¼	⅜-¼	⅜-¼	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $288.00-288.40 Close: $287.00-287.50 High: $288.45-288.95
Low: $287.00-287.50 AM: $288.35 PM: $288.25

Krugerrand: $292.00-294.00 (£173.50-175.50)

Platinum: $368.25 (£220.05) Silver: $5.045 (£3.025) Palladium: $282.00 (£168.50)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Sept 7	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.2377-3.2534	3.2483-3.2519	1⅛-1pr	3½-3⅛pr
Brussels	59.170-59.510	59.345-59.454	23-18pr	62-55pr
Copenhagen	10.936-10.989	10.949-10.959	½-¼pr	½-¼pr
Dublin	1.1428-1.1519	1.1457-1.1903	15-9pr	49-40pr
Frankfurt	2.8703-2.8837	2.8780-2.8804	1-¾pr	2½-2¼pr
Lisbon	294.16-295.57	294.62-294.88	½-¼pr	2½-2¼pr
Madrid	243.72-244.88	244.31-244.54	67-56pr	195-176pr
Milan	2757.56-2861.0	2842.9-2845.2	62-46pr	183-160pr
Montreal	2.5270-2.5401	2.5363-2.5395	0.40-0.33pr	0.78-0.67pr
New York	1.6678-1.6708	1.6686-1.6696	0.273-0.252pr	0.798-0.767pr
Oslo	12.822-12.859	12.850-12.859	¼-⅛ds	¼-⅛ds
Paris	9.6190-9.6720	9.6478-9.6570	3½-3pr	9½-9¼pr
Stockholm	13.198-13.265	13.225-13.241	¼-⅛pr	1-¾pr
Tokyo	218.61-220.40	219.63-219.93	1⅛-1¼pr	4-3⅝pr
Vienna	20.144-20.294	20.251-20.268	¼-⅛pr	¼-⅛pr
Zurich	2.3497-2.3697	2.3534-2.3565	1½-1⅜pr	3½-3¼pr

Source: Extel — Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.6891-1.6906
Austria	12.12-12.13
Belgium (Com)	35.56-35.57
Canada	1.5198-1.5208
Denmark	6.5660-6.5680
France	5.7740-5.7760
Germany	1.7234-1.7239
Hong Kong	7.7480-7.7490
Ireland	1.4522-1.4572
Italy	1702.35-1702.65
Japan	131.69-131.79
Malaysia	3.7995-3.8005
Netherlands	1.9448-1.9458
Norway	7.6911-7.6920
Portugal	176.39-176.49
Singapore	1.7255-1.7300
Spain	146.41-146.45
Sweden	7.9158-7.9208
Switzerland	1.4105-1.4110

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6687-1.6711
Australia dollar	2.8209-2.8242
Bahrain dinar	0.6200-0.6360
Brazil real*	1.9585-1.9612
China yuan	unq
Cyprus pound	0.8385-0.8595
Finland markka	8.8600-8.8240
Greece drachma	490.25-501.65
Hong Kong dollar	12.9392-12.9447
India rupee	70.01-71.91
Indonesia rupiah	unq
Kuwait dinar KD	0.5010-0.5140
Malaysia ringgit	6.3448-6.3495
New Zealand dollar	3.2743-3.2904
Pakistan rupee	73.20 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.0000-6.1340
Singapore dollar	2.8814-2.8903
S Africa rand (com)	10.002-10.502
U A E dirham	6.0525-6.1895

Barclays Treasury * Lloyds Bank*

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	390	Lloyds TSB	5,768
ASDA Gp	941	LucasVarity	1,327
Abbey Ntl	2,364	Marks Spr	7,785
Allied Dom	710	Misys	146
Allnce & Leic	3,311	Nat Grid	3,029
Amvescap	1,220	Nat Power	4,084
AB Foods	109	NatWst Bk	5,836
Bk of Scot	2,310	Norwich Un	3,204
BAA	2,467	Nycmd Amr	535
Barclays	7,299	Orange	1,985
Bass	979	P & O	2,360
BAT Inds	0	Pearson	1,131
BG	5,745	PowerGen	939
Billiton	7,906	Prudential	3,152
Blue Circle	484	Railtrack	2,067
BOC	388	Rank Group	404
Boots	2,058	Reckitt Col	282
BAe	3,479	Reed Intl	3,537
BA	3,622	Rentokil	4,752
Brit Energy	1,322	Reuters	2,523
Br Land	1,303	Rio Tinto	1,614
BP	4,580	RMC	252
Brit Steel	974	Rolls Royce	5,578
BSkyB	3,347	Ryl & Sun	4,799
BT	9,086	Ryl Bk Sct	1,681
BTR	7,096	Safeway	1,799
CGU	1,332	Sainsbury	2,911
Cable Wire	3,517	Schroders	159
Cadbury	1,692	Scot & New	495
Carlton Cms	3,131	Scot Power	2,193
Centrica	7,784	Svrn Trent	234
Compass Gp	1,210	Shell Trans	16,000
Diageo	2,471	Siebe	9,014
EMI	822	Smiths Ind	1,204
Enterpr Oil	2,059	SmKl Bch	11,244
Gen Elec	5,260	Stagecoach	85
GKN	629	Std Chand	9,458
Glaxo Well	3,750	Sun Life	138
Granada	615	Tesco	8,114
GUS	1,577	Thames W	431
GRE	4,410	Tomkins	1,238
ICI	950	Unilever	4,778
HSBC	8,156	Utd News	1,636
Halifax	12,212	Utd Utilities	1,437
Hays	312	Vodafone	8,954
Kingfisher	2,207	WPP	1,003
Ladbroke	2,079	Whitbread	1,265
Land Secs	303	Williams	1,857
LASMO	6,646	Woolwich	2,555
Legal & Gn	808	Zeneca	1,047

WALL STREET

	Sep 4 close	Sep 3 close
AMP Inc	37	37
AMR Corp	50	50
AT & T	53	51
Abbott Labs	39	40
Advanced Micro	14	14
Aetna Life	65	64
Ahmanson (HF)	51	56
Air Prod & Chem	31	32
AirTouch Comm	56	57
Albertson's	51	52
Alcan Alumnm	22	21
Allied Signal	34	33
Alum Co of Am	63	64
Amerada Hess	50	49
AEP	44	44
Amer Express	73	77
Amer Genl Corp	62	64
Amer Home Pr	48	48
Amer Intl	75	79
Amer Online	86	86
Amer Stores	29	30
Amer Standard	35	34
Ameritech	46	45
Amgen	63	64
Amoco	48	46
Andrew Corp	13	13
Anheuser-Busch	51	49
Apple Computer	35	34
Archer Daniels	15	15
Armco	4	3
Armstrng Wrld	50	50
Asarco	18	18
Atl Richfield	60	59
Atmel Corp	7	7
Auto Data Pro	69	69
Avery Dennison	47	48
Avon Products	57	59
Baker Hughes	21	22
Baltim Gas & El	30	30
Banc One	39	41
BankAmerica	60	64
Bank of NY	25	25
Bankers Tr Crp	67	66
Bausch & Lomb	39	40
Baxter Intl	57	59
Becton Dickinsn	38	40
Bell Atlantic	42	41
BellSouth	66	65
Best Foods	50	49
Black & Decker	44	44
Block (H&R)	40	40
Boeing	34	34
Boise Cascade	24	23
Boston Scien	69	70
Bristol Myrs Sq	104	106
Browning Ferris	33	33
Brunswick	14	15
Burlington Nthn	87	90
CMS Energy Corp	40	41
CSX	38	37
CBS Corp	26	27
Campbell Soup	47	49
Carolina Pwr	42	42
Case Corp	28	28
Caterpillar	45	45
Central & SW	26	26
Champion Intl	31	31
Chase Manhat	45	49
Chevron Corp	77	75
Chrysler	48	48
Chubb Corp	63	65
Cigna Corp	61	61
Citicorp	92	98
Clorox	91	92
Coastal Corp	28	27
Coca Cola	62	61
Coca Cola Ent	25	25
Colgate-Palm	70	71
Columbia Energy	49	49
ColumbiaHCA	22	23
Compaq Cmp	29	29
Comp Ass Intl	29	30
Conagra	26	25
Cons Edison	46	46
Cons Nat Gas	42	42
Cooper Inds	42	41
Corning Inc	24	23
C'wide Credit	36	36
Crestar Finl	50	51
Crown Cork	33	31
Daimler Bz ADP	91	92
Dana Corp	38	40
Dayton Hudson	38	39
Deere	34	34
Dell Computer	109	108
Delta Air Lines	93	95
Deluxe Corp	28	28
Dillard Dept St	30	31
Disney (Walt)	27	28
Dominion Res	40	40
Donelley (RR)	37	37
Dover Corp	29	29
Dow Chemical	79	80
Dow Jones	48	48
Dresser	28	27
Duke Energy	60	60
Du Pont	56	56
Eastman Chem	51	50
Eastman Kodak	80	82
Eaton Corp	61	59
Edison Int	26	26
Elect Data Sys	33	34
Emerson Elec	56	55
Engelhard Corp	19	18
Enron Corp	43	43
Entergy	28	27
Ethyl Corp	4	4
Exxon	66	63
FDX Holding	49	49
FMC Corp	53	52
FPL Group	64	63
Fifth Third Banc	51	51
Fleet Finl Grp	69	70
Fluor Corp	38	39
Ford Motor	41	42
Fort James	28	27
Fortune Brands	27	26
Franklin Res	26	30
GTE Corp	48	48
Gannett	57	58
Gap Inc Del	53	52
Gateway 2000	47	47
Gen Dynamics	45	47
Gen Electric	75	77
Gen Mills	65	66
Gen Motors	56	57
Gen Reinsurance	203	207
Gen Signal	36	36
Genuine Parts	31	30
Georgia Pac	41	42
Gillette	40	40
Glaxo Welc ADR	60	60
Goodrich (BF)	30	30
Goodyear Tire	46	46
Great Lakes	34	40
Halliburton	29	27
Harcourt General	46	46
Heinz (HJ)	52	50
Hercules	25	27
Hershey Foods	65	64
Hewlett Packard	50	50
Hilton Hotels	20	20
Home Depot	38	38
Homestake Mng	12	11
Honeywell	63	65
Household Intl	36	37
Houston Inds	28	28
Humana	15	14
Ikon Office	6	6
Illinois Tool	46	47
Illinova	26	25
INCO	10	9
Ingersoll Rand	39	39
Inland Steel	18	18
Intel Corp	78	76
IBM	119	121
Intl Flav & Fr	38	37
Intl Paper	39	38
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	76	75
Kellogg	31	31
Kerr-McGee	42	40
Kimberly-Clark	38	38
Kmart	12	13
Knight-Ridder	46	47
Lilly (Eli)	70	72
Limited Inc	23	23
Lincoln Nat	84	86
Litton	51	50
Liz Claiborne	28	28
Lockheed Martin	94	93
Louisiana Pac	19	19
Lucent Tech	79	77
MCI Comm	56	58
Manpower Inc	22	20
Marketspan Cp	26	26
Marriott Int A	26	26
Marsh & McLnn	48	49
Masco Corp	23	23
May Dept St	56	57
Maytag Corp	44	44
McDonalds	58	57
McGraw Hill	75	78
Mead Corp	27	27
MediaOne Group	43	44
Medimmune Corp	15	15
Medtronic	57	56
Mellon Bk	53	53
Merck Inc	122	123
Merrill Lynch	61	63
Microsoft	96	99
Minnesota Mine	70	70
Mirage Resorts	16	16
Mobil Corp	72	71
Monsanto	52	52
Morgan (JP)	86	88
Motorola Inc	39	39
Mylan Labs	27	27
Natl Semi	9	9
Natl Service Ind	36	34
Navistar Intl	22	23
NY Times A	26	26
Newmont Mng	20	17
Nike B	34	33
NL Industries	21	21
Nordstrom	26	27
Norfolk Sthrn	29	28
Nthn State Pwr	26	26
Norwest Corp	29	30
Occidental Pet	19	18
Office Depot	23	24
Oracle	20	19
Oryx Energy Co	11	11
Owens Corning	32	33
PPG Industries	52	52
PMI Group	55	56
PNC Bank	43	44
PP&L Res	23	23
Pacificorp	22	22
PaineWebber	32	34
Pall Corp	21	21
Parker Hannifin	29	29
Peco Energy	31	31
Penney (JC)	52	52
Pennzoil	38	37
Pepsico	30	30
Pfizer	95	99
Pharm & Upjhn	44	44
Phelps Dodge	48	48
Philip Morris	43	42
Phillips Pet	43	43
Pitney Bowes	48	49
Polaroid	27	28
Procter & Gmbl	75	78
Providian	57	60
Pub Serv E & G	35	36
Quaker Oats	53	53
Ralston Purina	27	27
Raychem Corp	28	29
Raytheon B	41	41
Reebok Intl	15	15
Reliastar Fin	37	39
Reynolds Metals	50	50
Rockwell Intl	38	38
Rohm & Haas	28	29
Royal Dutch	47	45
Rubbermaid	27	27
SBC Comms	37	37
Safeco Corp	40	41
St Paul's Cos	29	29
Sara Lee Corp	50	49
Schering Plough	91	93
Schlumberger	50	47
Seagram	31	32
Sears Roebuck	47	47
Shell Trans	36	34
Sherwin Wllms	24	25
Silicon Graphics	10	10
Snap-On-Tools	29	28
Southern Co	28	28
Southtrust	32	33
Sprint Corp	64	64
Stanley Works	38	38
Starwood H & R	33	34
Sun Company	32	30
Sun Microsys	42	40
Suntrust	55	56
Supervalu	23	23
Synovus Fin	18	18
Sysco Corp	22	21
TRW Inc	44	45
TIG Hldgs	13	13
Tandy Corp	51	52
Temple Inland	47	44
Tenet Healthcare	27	27
Tenneco	33	33
Texaco	57	57
Texas Inst	49	50
Texas Utilities	41	41
Textron	61	65
Thermo Elect	15	15
Time Warner	83	85
Times-Mirror A	55	58
Timken	18	17
Torchmark	36	36
Toys R Us	17	18
Transamerica	99	102
Travelers	39	40
Tribune	62	60
Tyco Int	54	54
UST Inc	27	27
US Bancorp	37	38
UAL	59	59
Unicom	59	57
US Inds	14	14
US West	49	49
USAirways Group	48	50
USX Marathon	29	27
Unicom	35	34
Unilever NV	60	60
Union Camp	38	39
Union Carbide	39	39
Union Pacific	38	39
Unisys Corp	19	19
United Tech	76	75
Unocal Corp	34	33
VF Corp	38	39
Venator Group	9	9
Walgreen	40	41
Wal-Mart Stores	58	60
Warner-Lambert	68	70
Wells Fargo	294	300
Weyerhaeuser	37	37
Whirlpool	47	47
Whitman	17	17
Winn Dixie	36	36
Witco Corp	20	20
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	75	76
Xerox	88	90
Xilinx Inc	31	31

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES TU
BUSINESS
BUSINESSES WANTED
EUROPEAN UNION ELECTRO-MAGNETIC COMPATIBILITY (EMC) TESTING/ CE MARKING
SUBSIDISED TRAINING
0181 362 5555
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
LIQUIDATIONS RECEIVERSHIPS: AUCTIONS:
BUSINESSES FOR SALE
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COMPUTERS & COMPUTING SERVICES
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"The Best
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ECONOMIC VIEW  ANATOLE KALETSKY

Bears may banish concern about rates and the pound

As stock markets tumble the outlook for sterling offers British industry a silver lining

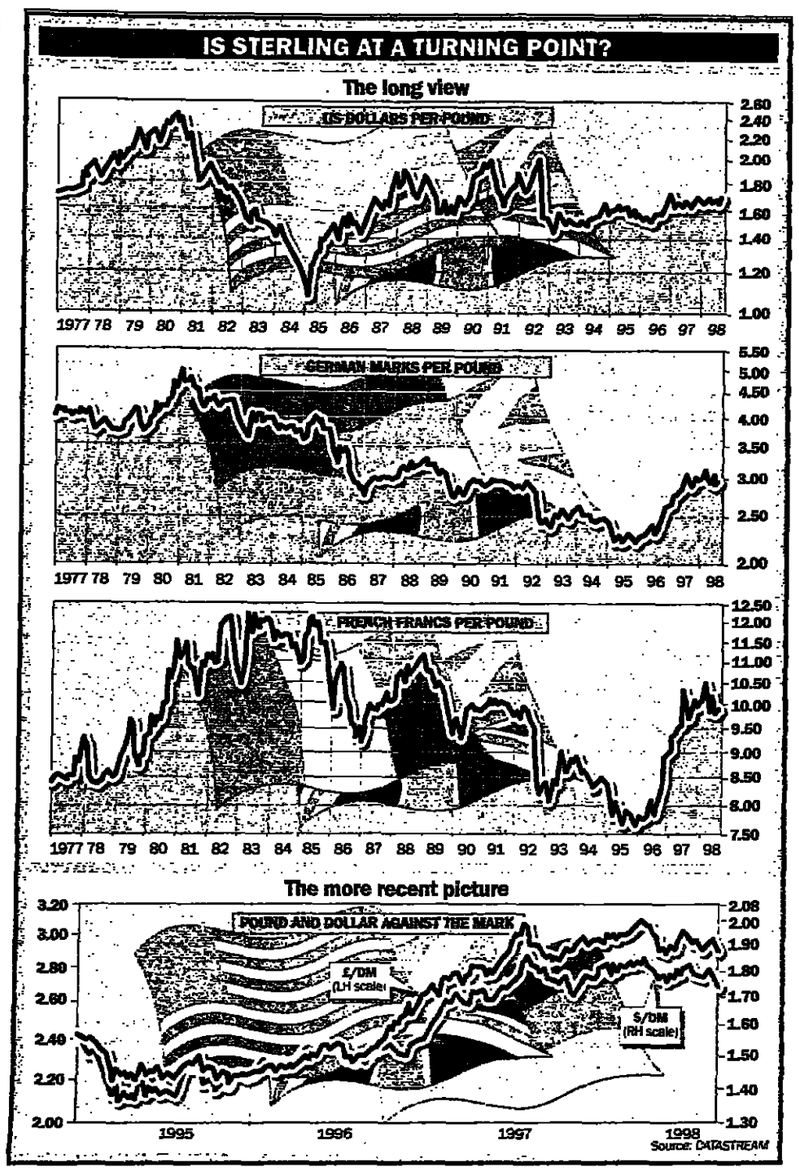
The bear market in equities may so far have run only half its course and the damage to Britain's huge financial services industry has not even begun to hit home. But looking at the longer-term consequences of a bear market, it is becoming increasingly likely that there there will be a big silver lining attached to this cloud.

This silver lining — the weakening of sterling — was briefly discussed on this page last Wednesday. Since then sterling has continued its sharp decline and yesterday the pound reached some critical technical thresholds at about DM2.87. In the past 12 months, the pound has repeatedly fallen to around this level and then bounced sharply back. This could, of course, happen again.

But if there is a decisive breach of the present "technical support", which Brian Marber, one of London's leading technical analysts, puts at between DM2.87 and DM2.89, there would be a good chance of the pound continuing its fall, first to around the old ERM limit of DM2.78 and then perhaps to the next region of support, just below DM2.65. More importantly, if the present support does give way, the pound is very unlikely to return to its recent peaks of above DM3 in the foreseeable future.

To put this more clearly from the perspective of the average British industrialist: the pound may be on the point of falling into a new trading range of DM2.65 to DM2.85. This may still be too high for the liking of many British exporters, but at least the much more disturbing possibility of sterling becoming permanently established in the region of DM3, would become a thing of the past. For this relief, if it comes, British industrialists and Labour politicians should be grateful to the bear market on Wall Street and to the general instability of world financial markets.

There are several "fundamental" economic reasons, on top of the technical evidence about market psychology, for believing that sterling will weaken significantly if stock markets around the world continue their decline. Last week I mentioned two reasons: the structure of the British economy, with its unusual dependence on financial services, especially for overseas earnings; and the stance of the Bank of England, which is now much less likely to raise interest rates or resist a moderate decline of the pound. In addition, there are two other factors that are likely to weigh even more heavily on sterling, especially in the short term. These are the pound's link with the dollar and the liquidity pressure on global investors.



For years the pound has been much more closely aligned with the dollar than the mark. Now that the dollar is falling, alongside the decline on Wall Street, this is bound to weaken the pound against the mark, at least in the short term. Leaving on one side for the moment the possible reasons for the decline of the dollar, it is worth examining the facts about its strong correlation with sterling.

Looking back over the past two decades, the pound's gyrations have left it almost unchanged against the dollar (see top chart). Sterling today is just 4.5 per cent below its average value in 1977 and also very close to its average value for the past 20 years as a whole.

More recently, sterling has been stable against the dollar even in terms of short-term fluctuations. In the six years since Britain left Europe's exchange-rate mechanism, the pound has almost never moved outside a 13 per cent band between $1.50 and $1.70. Against the mark it has fluctuated far more, by as much as 35 per cent, in the same period.

All sorts of reasons have been suggested for the pound's correlation with the dollar, including Britain's industrial structure, its position as an oil exporter and the lower political tolerance for long-term unemployment in the Anglo-Saxon countries than in Germany and France.

But whatever the causes, the facts of the correlation are clear. So is one implication, illustrated in the bottom chart. This shows that the abrupt strengthening of the pound against the mark since the summer of 1996 has been almost exactly parallelled by the upward move of the dollar against the German currency.

Put another way, a significant cause of the strong pound was the strengthening of the dollar — or its mirror image, the weakening of the mark. From the currency traders' standpoint, this correlation with the dollar is the main reason why the pound has fallen so sharply — from DM2.98 to DM2.87 just in the past two weeks. If the dollar continues to weaken, so will the pound.

But why has the dollar weakened? This is where the collapse in global stock markets comes in. Many economists have argued that falling share prices would hit consumer demand in America, either forcing the Federal Reserve Board to lower interest rates or causing a recession in the US. In my view this analysis is wrong, since the underlying strength of consumer demand in America is strong enough to withstand the shock of a moderate bear market and America is, in some ways less exposed to global financial turmoil than are such recession-bound economies as Germany and Japan.

One illustration of this relative vulnerability is relative exposure to trade with emerging markets. Although market traders universally believe that the US is more exposed to emerging markets than any other leading economy, this is factually untrue now that Russia and Eastern Europe have been caught up in the maelstrom. While America's exposure to Asia and Latin America is slightly greater than Germany's, Germany is much more dependent on trade with Eastern Europe and Russia. According to IMF statistics, total trade with emerging markets accounts for about 4.9 per cent of GDP in America, compared with 5.2 per cent in Germany, 5.3 per cent in Japan and 4.7 per cent in Britain.

But even if the pessimism about US growth prospects proves wrong in the long run, the short-term impact of falling equity prices is bound to push the dollar down. This is because of liquidity pressures in financial markets.

As Wall Street has fallen, Japanese investors have been pulling their money out of the US. Even more importantly in the short term, hedge funds and other speculative investors have been forced to cut back their risk exposures, closing down the lucrative currency positions they had run for years to exploit the big interest differentials between the dollar and the yen or the Swiss franc. As a result, the dollar has fallen alongside Wall Street, and will probably continue to do so until some stability returns to world financial markets.

But does this mean that sterling's fall is simply a by-product of the weakenss of the dollar? And will the pound strengthen again if the dollar recovers because pessimism about the US economy proves to be misplaced?

Perhaps not. For one thing, the liquidity pressures on speculative investors which have driven down the dollar could be even more powerful in the case of the pound, if only because the pound owed even more of its attraction to Britain's exceptionally high interest rates. More fundamentally, demand in the British economy is much weaker and has less upward momentum than it has in the US.

Thus Britain is more likely than America to suffer a serious, if temporary, setback to growth as a result of a loss of financial confidence. Industry is also far less competitive in Britain than in America at current exchange rates and neither the British Government nor the British industrial establishment seems willing to live with a strong pound.

None of this means that sterling will fall very sharply or even approach the level of below DM2.60 before the general election and Bank of England independence. The Bank's fears of inflation and the possibility of re-entering the ERM at a central rate of about DM2.60 or DM2.70 would certainly set a lower limit to the fall. And because of Britain's high interest rates, the pound should keep bouncing back, even if it establishes a downward trend. But even if sterling never falls far enough to make life for British industrialists as easy as it was in the mid-1990s, their nightmares about a permanently overvalued pound may soon be laid to rest.

Golden challenge of locating consumers with mobile lifestyle

Given the economic and political turmoil in Russia at the moment, it was perhaps predictable that handing over cheques totalling $1 million (about £600,000) and three mobile phones made out of gold to an elite group of athletes might not be universally appreciated. However Ericsson, the Swedish telecommunications group, was pretty sanguine about the local reaction to the IAAF Golden League final in Moscow on Saturday.

As the three winners — Marion Jones, the new heroine of South African athletics; Hicham El Guerrouj, the Moroccan 1,500 metres star; and the record-shattering 3,000 metres champion, Haile Gebrselassie of Ethiopia — held up their booty, boos echoed around Moscow's Olympic stadium. Despite giving away free tickets to local schoolchildren, many of whom were then spotted trying to sell them on the black market, only 10,000 of the 83,000 seats available for the event were filled.

Jones did not help matters by telling reporters that she planned to put her share of the prize money in a bank to earn interest — and one can safely assume it was a neither a Russian bank nor one in her native Johannesburg to which she was referring. Indeed if she wandered around the streets of Jo'burg brandishing her golden Ericsson mobile phone, it would not be long before she was mugged at gunpoint.

Despite these little local difficulties, Bo Albertson, marketing director of Ericsson, said yesterday that he was glad the company had bought up this event. "This is a global league, with six events preceding the final, which have all gone extremely well."

This is Ericsson's first year backing the global league. The way the event works is that there are six grand prix championships that lead up to a final. The main prize is split between those athletes who not only win the races at each of the six grand prix, but also the main final. Mr Albertson is loath to reveal how much it is costing Ericsson to buy up this event, but it is believed to be more than the $1 million top prize. Even so Mr Albertson reckons it is money well spent, which is not surprising as Ericsson only signed on the doted line after a long review of the group's sports marketing strategy.

A couple of years ago Ericsson decided to take a long, hard look at how it was spending its marketing krona. Mr Albertson says that laying out millions to be one of up to a dozen sponsors of large sporting events — such as the World Cup or the Olympics — did not look like a good way of getting the Ericsson message across. "We wanted focus in our sports marketing," he said, and to achieve this focus Ericsson decided to divide up what it wanted and see what fitted into its criteria.

At first Ericsson hoped to sponsor a worldwide event that would be watched by customers from São Paolo to Shanghai, who would immediately dash out and buy the latest Ericsson technology. This soon proved to be an impossible task so more modest ambitions were hatched.

The world was divided into three zones — Europe, the Americas (Latin America is a large market for Ericsson) and Asia Pacific. Ericsson decided to buy up an event in each zone. It chose an event rather than a person or a team because there is much less risk that an event will underperform, become the subject of a drugs scandal or generally do something that would harm the sponsorship. Despite eschewing teams, Ericsson is still keeping up its backing of


JASON NISSE

MARKET LEADER

Queens Park Rangers in football and Wasps in rugby union as these are relatively inexpensive and, according to Mr Albertson, "appear to be working well at a local level".

It then decided it would only back events it could own. In soccer, American football or any of the truly mass media sports, Ericsson could find no affordable events that had anything more than national appeal. So it decided to concentrate on athletics in Europe, tennis in the Americas and golf in Asia Pacific. In South America Ericsson set up the Copa Ericsson, its own tennis event, and has just purchased the Lipton's Open, the second best-known event on the US men's circuit. It is worth $2.45 million to its winner, who last year happened to be Marcello Rios of Chile. Ericsson is now looking for a golf event in the Far East on which to bestow its considerable largess.

Mr Albertson told me that these sporting events will be the platform for all future marketing by Ericsson in its attempts to appeal to people with what it calls a "mobile lifestyle", those who admire individual achievement and demand state-of-the-art technology. It reckons that these people will pay a premium for the latest mobile telecommunications, not merely make do with whatever Orange or One-2-One give away for £10 when you subscribe for their services. "This is a professional investment," Mr Albertson said. "The actual event is an entrance ticket and we have to spend more money to make sure the message comes across."

It is too early for Ericsson to judge whether this strategy will be successful. But given the way the watching Muscovites reacted to competitors in what was, until recently, an amateur sport, being handed cheques for more than most locals will earn in a lifetime, Ericsson clearly has some work to do in order to deliver its message. However, Ericsson might argue privately that the members of the audience who were booing were not exactly the sort of "mobile lifestyle" customers that the company was hoping to target anyway.



Golden phone winners: Marion Jones and Haile Gebrselassie

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20 Black Friars Lane, London EC4V 6HD
Telephone 0171 248 4282

Driven deal

INSTITUTIONAL investors were falling over themselves yesterday to sell out of UPF, the vehicle chassis maker that believes its future will be rosier in the hands of venture capitalists. They'll learn. Managers are taking the company private, backed by Phildrew Ventures, and independent directors are fully behind the managers in recommending the terms.

The share purchases mean the deal is pretty well done. However, at least one institution is unhappy at the fact that Philip Stephens, an independent director, is a corporate finance executive at Williams de Broë. Which firm of financial advisers acted for the independent directors? You guessed it — Williams de Broë. With whom he was clearly in full agreement.

THE International Monetary Fund meets this autumn, and one of the topics is the millennium bug. Alas, the IMF is not saying which member country's delegate, asked recently what plans there were for dealing with the bug, looked blank for a while and then replied: "Simple. Just get out the spray gun."



"And an unreadable Booker Prize with every pack of cornflakes"

Liffe choices

SUGGESTIONS that Bankers Trust may have abandoned plans to locate its new London HQ in Canary Wharf and instead opted for the Spitalfields site vacated by Liffe will presumably be welcomed by many of the staff. Yet this could also swing a few bob the way of Liffe, and provide the financial futures market with about its only bit of good news all year.

It all has to do with the complex agreement with the Corporation of London under which Liffe paid £40 million for an option on the site at the end of 1996. One of the first acts by Brian Williamson on taking over the Liffe chairmanship this summer was to bow to the inevitable and accept that the market would never need the 750,000 sq ft of space there.

The assumption has always been that the Corporation would simply pay about £50 million to take the site back and flog it on to a willing buyer, of whom there are a couple at least. But it seems that Liffe is hoping to do a deal with the potential occupier and pocket any profit. So the Corporation is poring over the small print of the original deal to see if the repurchase can be enforced.

A NEW saviour has emerged for Hyundai's deserted microchip plant in Dunfermline, in a deal brokered by one of the area's most senior politicians with an oil-rich nation. Such is the talk of the town. The story begins to leak credibility when you learn that the politician is Ron Brown, former local MP and a maverick even by the standards of most Labour politicians in Scotland, who was deselected after sex scandals and an unfortunate court case. It subsides entirely on the revelation that the possible rescuer is his old friend Colonel Gaddafi.

Brown has told the local paper that "top-level" Libyans are "receptive to doing a deal" which could resurrect the £2 billion scheme. There is an inevitable catch: the sanctions imposed on Libya which could be lifted on delivery of the Lockerbie bomb suspects.

Don't hold your breath.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Tallis man

JOHN TAVENER is about as fashionable as you get in contemporary music circles and successful, too, for a modern composer after a work of his was featured at the funeral service of Diana, Princess of Wales. His next work is *In the Month of Athyr*, a setting of a verse by the poet Constantine Cafavy, commissioned by the Tallis Scholars, the vocal group, and sponsored by the financial services headhunter the Tallis Group.

The link is, of course, Thomas Tallis. The singers take their name from the Elizabethan composer, and Edward Clark, chairman of the Tallis Group, is descended from him on his mother's side, and named his business accordingly. The work is now complete and will be premiered in the Sainsbury Wing of the National Gallery on November 3. "This music will last — it's not music that just gets one performance," Clark enthuses.

I left the oddest bit until last. As readers may have noticed, I have been away sorting out an addition to my family and only returned yesterday to learn that Clark had been trying to contact me with news of the commission. Meanwhile, it is usual for the local health authority to assign new parents a health visitor, to drop in once or twice to make sure the brute isn't chained to the radiator being fed dog food. Ours duly arrived. She turned out to be Clark's ex-wife.

MARTIN WALLER


John Tavener's latest work was commissioned by a headhunter

Firms taste success after Business Link help

Award nominations show the benefit of expert advice, reports Rodney Hobson

Evidence of dramatic rises in turnover of small businesses that have sought help from Business Links has been uncovered by nominations for this year's Building Better Businesses Awards.

Although the awards are primarily to honour Business Link advisers, who work behind the scenes, they inevitably focus on businesses helped.

One is Emirates Securities Services, a Manchester manned-security company that has seen turnover more than triple, from £146,000 to £510,000, in 12 months. Staffing has leapt from 16 to 45. Emirates has nominated its adviser, Jeff Castle, of Business Link Manchester, in the DTI awards, which are sponsored by Barclays Bank. Judging is in October.

Andrew Bell, managing director of Emirates, says: "Our industry has often lacked the recognition it deserves as a major employer."

Aqua Cure, a water treatment manufacturer at Southport, Lancashire, nominated its adviser, Bill McKessey, after seeing sales rise 70 per cent over three years.

Another rapidly growing company is the Chop Shop, formerly a Liverpool butcher's with turnover of £1,000 a week that has been transformed into a £6,000-a-week maker of fat-free sausages. Joe Burton, the owner, who has nominated his adviser, Kini Dagoga, says: "We used to make sausages on a smaller scale and I sold several varieties. I kept getting lots of girls coming in saying they were on a diet and why could I not make the sausages without fat. I was from the old school and thought sausages without fat would shrivel up in the pan.

"With the help of the Business Links adviser, I got the fat content down to 1 per cent, had the meat analysed, and contacted Weight Watchers and *Slimming World*, who recommended them."



Joe Burton, left, with Kini Dagoga, a Business Link adviser who helped to develop low-fat sausages

Mr Burton still works from the shop, but hopes to move to a purpose-built factory with the help of Liverpool City Council and Merseyside Business Link. He intends to spend £30,000 on a machine that will fill sausage skins automatically to the same size. He has had to turn down a request to supply Aramark, a national catering company, because he cannot yet cope with a further big rise in output.

The ability of Business Link advisers to act as sounding boards is a recurring theme of this year's nominations. Typical is Christopher Smith, director of Westfield Sports Cars, of Kingswinford, West Midlands. He says: "It has helped to have someone with accounting and management ability to call on. When business is busy, it is often difficult to look inwards to see or even know that mistakes are being made. When Norman Newton, the Business Link adviser, came along it was like having a weight removed."

Westfield is one of the few independent carmakers in the UK, producing low-volume models. It turns out about 400 a year, originally in kit form, but now built to European standards. Turnover is £3 million. When Mr Newton was called in, Westfield was making a loss. It has just moved into profit.

Mr Newton, from Dudley Business Link, has also helped to turn Yeoman Pressings, a sheet metal fabricator and toolmaker, from a loss in 1995 to a forecast profit of £100,000 this year. Turnover has doubled in that time, to £1.6 million, with the workforce up from 25 to 43.

Many firms nominating advisers originally approached them expecting little. Mr Bell says: "We contacted Business Link on the recommendation of a business associate. We were extremely sceptical of what they would have to offer as we envisaged the organisation to be yet another government-sponsored quango."

BRIEFINGS

Government proposals to make the uniform business rate fairer on small firms could have the opposite effect, the Forum of Private Business says. The plan targets properties with a rateable value of less than £5,000. The forum says that many small firms have properties with a higher rateable value. Nick Goulding, head of policy, says: "The Government will effectively put money in the pockets of landlords because when rates go down, rents invariably go up."

☐ The London Enterprise Agency and City University are running Computer Aided Business Solutions, a free course on the use of new technology in business. Details: Hilary Taylor, 0171-236 3000.

☐ Sage, the supplier of software for personal computers, will this month launch a Windows-only version of its Sage Line 50 package for small businesses.

☐ Two booklets produced by NatWest Business Insurance Service, *Protect your Business* and *Protect your Retail Business*, offer advice on preventing crime. Contact: 0800 331119.

Newly qualified chartered, incorporated engineers and technicians

Chartered Engineers.

The *Engineering Council* announces that the following, in membership of the appropriate engineering institution, have qualified as Chartered Engineers entitling them to use the designatory letters CEng after their names:

Association of Cost Engineers

TH Luk. RJ Shephard.

British Computer Society

S Abbott Capps. AAR Al Mutawa. JP Atkinson. SR Ballard. P Bayley. F Bell. DJ Bennison. RJ Birch. CM Bishop. MK Bradbury. ID Bramhill. PJ Brook. RC Burne. AJ Button. CA Campbell. T Cantrill. CT Cantwell. CA Chamberlain. S Connelly. GR Cook. AE Cox. DD Cranch. RM Dennis. D Dobinson. CG Downes Ward. RL Ellames. S Ellis. KF Essen. JK Farish. JC Ferguson. S Ford. PW Foster. M Froggatt. OCZ Gotel. PD Gregory. J Hill. PT Hook. JE Horton. TW Howard. PH Jenkins. PJK John. TL Johnston. A Jones. DG Jones. SP Joyce. PR Kalutantiri. LE Kay. PC Klein. PR Loomes. RK Luff. G MacKay. T Malek. M McAlister. CR McLean. DA Nightingale. SH North. SA O'Hara. P Onime. MG Papomenos. DM Parmit. PJ Penhallow. MP Quigley. DTG Raimbach. IJ Ray. MA Roberts. MH Sanghrajka. NM Seville. JM Shapland. CA Smith. SH Stoneley. JS Tattersall. D Thanigasapapathy. J Thompson. RJ Treseder. IB Turner. GPM Virgilio. RA Walden. MA Walker. P Waller. AD Walmsley. C Whiston. P Williams. S Woronycz. CW Zealey.

Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers

SJ Caithness. WC Chan. WY Chow. JS Clarke. SV Gogarty. LSC Lee. KW Leung. RJ McDermott. ARF McKinley. B McManus. CM Millen. GH Nash. MJ Price. H Takenoya. SCL Tang. LHJ Wong.

Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management

PM Egan. MP Gans. JHK Harris. AP Irving. Y Xiao.

Institute of Energy

MR Bunting. M Douglas. RH Flanagan. MJ Hagen. JC Harding. MA Jones. CL Lim. JR Mather. CP McGrath. KJ Turnbull. G Tweed. RC Veltman. CSV Wright.

Institute of Marine Engineers

JP Bate. RCG Birse. FJ Blackmore. SJ Budd. RK Calay. TE Cheshire. KW Chong. HJ Chor. MJ Christie. JD Cook. GR Cursiter. KCE De Graauw. SP Goncharuk. SRM Graham. H Grigorian. U Guriev. L Gusev. MA Hamad. AG Hardey. MJ Harley. LJ Ho-Wo Cheong. FJ Jansen. Y Jinliang. D Karavias. I Kazachuk. U Kireev. V Kuznetsov. J Lanting. SA Large. PEL Lewis. PH Marshall. FP Martin. NR McKay. R McNamara. BR Merryweather. P Methven. SP Moore. JN Morgan Hosey. JKJ Nelson. JYT Ng. FG Nunan. JS O'Flaherty. CM Oben. S Pace. SN Pazukha. TH Radlinger. T Rahman. K Reeves. C Rettie. NH Rogerson. E Rozenvasser. HP Schneider. J Semenov. AD Skelton. SB Smith. EK Stead. HG Tan. C Thompson. S Varzgar. RG Walker. CP Walton. CY Wong. DA Woodruff. U Zhukov.

Institute of Materials

R Bailey. JD Bolton. JP Broomfield. EG Bullock. A Chamberlain. T Cool. SE Cooney. WRI Cranstone. DA Creamer. PT Curtis. AJ Davenport. R Ferguson. O Gutfleisch. TM Hallett. BM Harvey. KA Hing. JM Pedgley. CJ Pindar. MJ Pilkethly. PAS Reed. G Tudbury. PA Withey.

Institute of Measurement and Control

DB Beecroft. PA Buckner. CN Cowperthwaite. J Evans. M Evans. CI Hall. RO Hume. M Jessop. R Nassin. PH Norman. MG Pizey. C Quinn. TJ Sutton. P Yaxley.

Institute of Physics

P Addison. AR Al Jibouri. D Booth. G Chalmers. EH Li. J Luo. N Merryweather Clarke. IM Reaney.

Institute of Physics & Engineering in Medicine

CL Daniel. JQ Yao.

Institution of Agricultural Engineers

MB Douthwaite. LU Opara.

Institution of Chemical Engineers

MJ Adams. WD Adams. RO Allen. M Asaadi. SP Badgeri. DV Banks. DL Bartlett. A Bartley. PMJ Baudez. MJ Bishop. TJ Bone. AJ Bremner. D Brown. MC Bryars-Abueg. EJ Burr. ND Campbell. GYS Chong. WDJ Churchill. PD Colben. JR Corkill. S Cul. GK Davies. RJ Day. NC Diamond. FLP Downey. AL Dyer. GA Eschuk. BCR Ewan. NA Fairweather. JF Felton. TH Ford. IR Gibb. CR Giddis. ND Gill. MF Goodman. WS Goodway. KM Hargreaves. SR Harrison. A Hayman. SA Hennigan. RS Hood. SP Howard. EW Hudson. JG James. SC James. H Jones. AM Kalloo. PI Kendall. FO Labinjo. RC Larcombe. IS Lavender. KK Llong. P Marsh. JR Marshall. PJE Mason. LK McCann. KA McColgan. LG Milburn. RS Millard. AD Mitchell. LAEM O'Reilly. KE Onojafe. JC Pashley. RO Passau. SJ Prentice. JRK Primrose. RC Quayle. AJ Ratcliffe. G Reed. JAM Reekie. M Richardson. MW Robinson. ID Royston. IG Russell. CJ Sandiford. PJ Scully. RR Segulem. RA Siddall. AD Silcock. HF Sloan. CM Smith. DN Smith. SR Smith. DR Spence. P Spittlehouse. SM Stuart. AC Tallentire. AJ Tate. RW Taylor. A Till. RD Todd. PG Tuohey. U Tuzun. CM Whitlam. S Wilkes. MWT Wong. JM Woodley.

Institution of Civil Engineers

WS Adams. VR Allan. JR Allen. PT Allsop. K Amiri Nasserabadi. BM Andrew. DW Andrew. DK Andrews. P Anusas. LN Archer. CR Aston. JG Austin. MR Averill. ME Baird. AT Baldwin. SA Ballantine. SH Barbarics. G Barbato. N Bell. DI Bennett. RB Blair. EL Broadbent. DS Brown. MJ Brown. JP Buckingham. DF Bullock. SS Buray. SG Burns. MD Burr. JE Bushaway. L Campbell. KM Carpenter. DJ Carter. JP Carter. BA Chamberlain. AF Chapman. LCB Cheung. AJ Chisholm. D Cleaves. RA Clubb. MT Collett. PS Collingwood. RA Collinson. AM Conibear. GM Connor. S Cooley. ME Cooper. MJ Corby. MR Cordingley. GH Couchman. RD Coupe. RC Cowle. MB Crawford. C Crozier. DJ Cuming. HW Dannatt. KJ Day. MP Dent. SC Dent. NA Desert. BP Devlin. MP Dewar. MH Dives. I Dodgson. BJ Donaldson. WJ Dornan. AJ Duffin. PJ Eagle. DN Edwards. HT Edwards. AI El-Sheikh. JR Elderfield. HE Elliot. DJ Evans. CJ Evison. NTR Evison. DP Ewart. F Fanyinka. E Fernandezde La Pradilla. T Fewster. JRP Fleming. IN Forrest. SP Franks. A Gallagher. DR Gibson. MA Goadby. AN Goddard. SL Godden. AJ Goff. AV Goode. SW Gorton. JP Gott. IL Graham. CK Grant-Tyerman. CJ Gray. DP Green. TW Green. MEM Greer. AK Groves. ASR Harvey. KM Hazell. CR Hendy. LJ Hensman. WA Heron. AJ Hill. MA Hobbs. DF Hooper. SP Horkan. CT Hoskins. FA Hoyle. RAN Hughes. DJ Hull. MD Ibbeson. JH Iddon. ME Jackson. J Jacobson. SA Jacques. ME Jamieson. AM Jarman. S Jenkins. H Jennings. RA Jewell. PF John. AR Johnson. CA Johnston. GJ Jones. SJ Jones. SR Keetley. GJ Kennington. N Kerry. TD Kersley. DA Kimberley. I Kimble. IF Kirby. SF Lai. TPW Laidler. EM Leahy. TJ Lees-Baker. AG Lind. DW Lloyd. J Lloyd. MA Lloyds. SA Lousley. HL Macdonald. AP Macey. MG Maddox. WF Marcuson. S Martin. B Mason. RG Maxwell. MWH Maynard. AG McAtear. IT McClung. P McCormick. DM McCrickard. WP McCullough. W McElwain. DJ McGettrick. JRI McLeod. MAC McNab. AJ Merrick. G Milsom. SD Minchin. AJ Minson. AM Mohammadi-Motlagh. DW Moncrieff. JP Moss. AJ Mulhern. CK Murray. JR Mynott. JC Napier. SJ Nash. B Neaves. RDM Neill. G Neilson. SK Ngai. DV O'Brien. IA O'Hare. SJ Parker. WR Parker. K Patel. RT Payne. AD Pendleton. M Pengelly. G Percy. RA Percy. AJ Perry. KW Philpott. DN Pickard. JA Pickford. AI Piechowiak. I Pitts. KA Pritchard. J Prothero. LA Radin. JP Ralph. S Rashid. TN Rea. FW Reed. SD Reed. KS Reid. DP Richardson. PJ Rigby. RC Riley. AJ Robertson. DA Robertson. EN Robson. GJ Sanderson. NA Searle. MJ Shackleton. ID Sharpe. AJ Shields. CK Simpson. DM Smith. GP Smith. MG Smith. SM Smith. DR Solomons. R Speller. JA Spruce. KJ Stevenson. D Stewart. MH Stonehouse. AN Swanson. JG Swanson. SD Talbovs. SA Thomas. CM Thompson. SV Thompson. JM Thomson. JL Timms. RM Tindal. J Trakalo. GP Travers. BK Turner. ID Turner. R Van Beek. TM Van Kalken. HR Vaughan. AR Wallace. DJ Wallace. C Walton. DL Ward. TJ Warren. A Waters. A Watson. I Weir. PJ Wells. KS Whaley. PA Whalley. MJ Wheeldon. MJ Wheeler. DD White. RJH White. JF Wilkinson. CM Willes. ADC Williamson. AM Williamson. TJ Wilson. FLM Wong. SL Wood. BHN Zakaria.

Institution of Electrical Engineers

AA Abdalla. ON Adjei. HKH Ahmad. S Albuti. RV Aldridge. G Allinson. KMS Alnoh. AJ Allpress. RJW Anderson. DA Andreetti. M Atkinson. TM Au. A Baldwin. SN Baldwin. M Bates. AJ Baynham. AA Beales. RNH Bennett. JD Bevan. HS Bhatia. DR Bibby. M Bielikova. S Bold. RMF Bonnen. RS Bowler. AR Brearley. AR Brewer. MQ Bridle. SA Brimble. TS Brown. MP Bull. S Calmcross. P Callaghan. AJ Campbell. RG Carr. SE Carter. MJ Caston. CH Chan. CK Chan. J Chan. KKF Chan. PG Chan. SH Chan. YS Chan. IA Chapman. KY Chau. HK Chen. YS Cheng. KL Cheung. NSH Cheung. WL Cheung. SI Chien. MWA Ching. KYG Chiu. MV Chowney. KWA Choy. JG Christoffersen. KC Clark. SP Clarke. EN Clouston. IM Clowery. IJ Cocken. S Collings. PP Collins. TG Connelly. GR Cookman. AH Coonick. DJ Cooper. I Corrigan. G Craigie. TJ Crawford. AJ Crichton. AD Cross. TD Daldry. MP Dames. E Danis. S Danks. JJ Davies. MS Davies. AD Day. PB De Souza. DF Dean. MS Dhanjal. P Diamantides. SR Dillingham. AM Dixon. IR Dixon. WB Docherty. JA Doel. KG Doherty. AG Dolman. JG Donoghue. NE Dovey. J Dowling. DN Duncan. IC Dungworth. S Dunwoody. JK Earnshaw. ASK Edirisinghe. ND Eraut. D Evans. MJ Evans. P Everett. RJ Fagg. DTY Fan. PM Farley. G Farnsworth. MJJD Favolle. RW Fellows. NA Fergusson. JA Fewster. AJ Field. RP Fish. A Fitzgerald. MJ Fletcher. JK Foo. RW Fowell. KC Fung. RA Gambro. DSJ Gargan. SW Gaskell. DP Gent. D George. F Ghassemi. RE Giles. VR Giles. MF Gilliland. M Gledhill. PA Gorton. SC Goss. JM Govey. CJ Green. SJ Greenland. CJ Griffiths. PR Grimwood. MA Haines. SA Hale. N Hales. KW Hall. NC Hamilton. PG Hammond. H Hampson. M Hanajik. PJ Handley. GA Hart. SW Harvey. D Harwood. JD Hatchell. KF Hausammann. GW Haywood. DJ Healey. SS Heaney. J Hendron. PA Hennessy. SW Hewitt. SJ Hillier. GWS Ho Yow. MJ Hockin. P Hodkinson. KNC Hong. YC Hoon. M Horne. TE Houghton. RA Howel. DG Howie. P Hurrell. IM Ianev. J Issacs. R Jagger. T Jameel. KS Jandu. AS Jhutty. CM Johnson. I Jolliffe. ACU Jones. DB Jones. SG Jones. PM Jordan. O Joshi. RE Joyce. MD Judd. P Kakaire. R Kennedy. JUZ Khan. BP Kibble. AW King. BJ King. MJG Knapp. I Kneeshaw. CK Ko. KK Ko. A Kolundzic. HKH Kong. PJ Kozdon. KH Kwan. YFF Kwong. CW Lam. YC Lam. DJ Lamb. GT Lambert. MA Landman. HN Lau. PCT Lau. JE Lawn. AP Layland. PH Le Page. BH Lee. CFF Lee. WHT Lee. CY Leung. KC Leung. WC Leung. G Li. TC Lin. JT Linehan. CLE Lo. N Lovett. MJ Luckett. T Ma. TM Ma. JH Macgregor. C Mackie. MJC Magan. A Main. GP Mallender. PP Manning. RE Mansell. GI Marr. AL Massey. JC Matthews. J McAlorum. RW McGee. AJ McKay. IG McKinlay. A McNeill. CA McRobbie. AR Mellett. P Menhart. D Merritt. NE Moiseiwitsch. CM Moore. JD Moore. SJ Moore. DJ Moretti. AG Moss. PS Mottram. SA Moules. CO Mountain. S Murray. P Navrat. S Nayar. JP Neal. KK Ng. PM Ng. DM North. CH Or. SF Orbell. PAB Orlowski. JM Page. C Palanichamy. YJ Park. A Parker. DR Parker. DL Partridge. A Patel. LA Pearce. SJ Perry. RG Phillips. NA Pilling. MA Pixley. OG Plakhtyna. HC Poan. HGP Pollock. J Pope. C Pound. BJ Power. JR Prenton. CM Price. L Proctor. ST Protheroe. JA Quayle. V Racek. I Rahim. RM Ratcliffe. JA Read. PN Reynolds. SH Richards. P Ridley. GW Roach. KE Roberts. SM Roberts. TMC Roberts. KP Robertson. P Robinson. MC Rossiter. SW Rowe. SD Roylance. IG Russell. MJ Ryan. JR Sanderson. T Seidmann. MT Selby. GG Sexton. DJ Sheena. K Sheppard. WK Shing. AWC Shum. D Sickling. AR Sieradzki. UI Siriwardena. P Skuse. V Smiesko. CA Smith. CJ Smith. JF Smith. MC Smith. WK So. J Spaniol. PM Stanfield. SA Steel. CW Stewart. DP Stonehouse. DI Stott. PT Stuckey. G Sumner. DG Swan. JC Tagg. ANK Tam. MK Tang. RQ Tan. SJ Taylor. EJ Thomson. M Truelove. CL Tsang. SM Tuck. PHG Turnbull. JF Turner. HAJ Tyler. PA Tyson. SC Unwin. AK Urquhart. JF Utting. R Van Der Veen. AM Vernon. PG Wakely. WN Walker. AA Wallace. WR Wallace. TEK Wallis Smith. JD Walsh. AP Walytschko. JP Wariner. ID Warry Thomas. RB Webb. IM Wells. GE West. FRR White. S White. AM Whitehead. IJ Whiteway. AJ Wilcox. TA Wild. CG Wilkinson. SL Willis. SG Winfield. CT Wong. PC Wong. YK Wong. D Woodcock. MA Woollen. RA Wortley. G Yang. LC Yarham. SLS Yau. DSK Yip. AD Young. WHR Yuen. J Zaccarini. C Zhang.

Institution of Engineering Designers

SC Bradshaw. IM Garner. FH McMahon. TC Stubbs. PJ Waddicor. H Zahabi.

Institution of Fire Engineers

AJ Gardiner. DC Thompson.

Institution of Gas Engineers

E Cortes. H Davies. CKA Leung. WL Moy. GM Steel. KWR Tang. P Walker. DJ Wilkie. CK Wong.

Institution of Mechanical Engineers

F Abdul Majid. CL Ardoun. G Armstrong. SR Barnett. BE Baxter. PL Bedford. PA Biernacki. WCNI Boey. MR Boots. P Bothamley. EJ Bowater. V Boyd. TA Brain. RW Brenton. KJ Bridle. PG Briskham. J Britain. RL Brooks. JG Brown. M Brown. SD Bruce. AJ Bryan. EM Bunn. GD Byrom. DN Callaghan. AG Campbell. CH Chan. YP Chan. C Cheston. BE Clieve. SE Cockerill. GWL Coker. TRK Cowin. CH Craft. DJ Crisp. DL Culling. NM Cunningham. ME Daborn. MJA De Jong. PT Deeran. LE Dinham. TC Dower. NS Doyle. CM Dunne. SJL Edwards. MAM Ezra. I Farnworth. RD Fauvel. AE Fellows. BJ Fitzpatrick. P Frantzis. JD Fraser. JC Fry. ML Gidlow. REI Gillanders. ME Gledhill. PJ Goodchild. R Goulette. MA Hulley. D Harlott. MB Harpham. IM Harrop. NJ Heard. CP Heath. SM Heath. BMA Heppenstall. K Hewitt. I Hill. RL Hill. KW Ho. DJ Holman. EF Hood. PJ Horrell. PJ Howarth. NC Hull. IK Hurst. B Hutchison. ASA Ibrahim. I Ibrahim. WC Ip. RJ Jackson. AA Karolia. MV Kelsoe. CT Kennedy. SN Kent. KA Kiff. Z Kilburn. S Killin. KW Kong. SAJ Koppers. RM Koya. YK Lam. HJ Lancaster. ID Lang. BSH Law. JF Leonard. DS Lilly. P Lown. KW Lui. MD Lutton. AM Lynch. MH Mak. K Mall. NK Marston. MR Martin. RJ Martin. JF Maston. D Matthewson. TS Maxwell. SK McFadden. SG McKenzie. M McMullen. HF Middleton. PP Misir. M Molyneux. RV Mulligan. TR Neville. DA Newman. RJ Nicholl. PR Paisley. TJ Paul. KP Peacock. MHJ Pearce. AC Pickett. JK Potter. MA Prince. SD Prior. KA Pugsley. B Purvis. PR Rattenbury. SE Rees. SG Reeve. AD Rimmer. A Roach. RD Roberts. JW Robinson. NA Robinson. RS Roscher. JG Rose. GP Sadler. TG Scott. G Seenivasagam. TC Shea. BA Sheppard. OA Shergold. G Singh. HO Smith. K Standbrook. RE Stephenson. PM Stewart. PT Tal. NJ Townrow. N Trevor. K Vadgama. PD Waesley. A Walker. S Walker. U Warhurst. CD Watson. P Watson. C Webb. PR Webb. BJ Weintz. MS Whalley. S Williams. PD Wyatt.

Institution of Mining and Metallurgy

AP Gulder. DW James. MWR Jones. AD Joyce. W McGranaghan. TGD Newman.

Institution of Nuclear Engineers

SJ Blakeway. M Lucas. GJ Malcolm. AP Mitchell. ME Nicholas. MG Peach. AJ Van Der Merwe. JW Voss. CD Wright.

Institution of Plant Engineers

DW McMorris.

Institution of Structural Engineers

AD Almer. ASJ Billingshurst. F Chaaban. CY Chan. YM Chan. AJ Downey. HJE Henderson. KTK Ho. TP Ho. S Humphreys. KCP Ku. CLA Kwan. KS Lai. MKM Lee. SS Leung. MCJ Lim. BK Meredith. CK Ng. CY Ow. N Song. JD Turner. MP Virlogeux. DH Wan. JD Wedge. S Wong. WF Wong. J Woods. TC Zhou.

Royal Aeronautical Society

CR Bascombe. AD Bellis. DJ Bronk. GA Copeland. AR Davies. JD Fitzpatrick. S Georgiou. SC Gurd. AS Hashmi. ST Heath. SM Horrocks. PC Jackson. JMM Place. RS Plimley. KJ Potter. AP Powell. GR Seaton. PD Sodzi. TH Speak.

Royal Institution of Naval Architects

AD Bailey. LJ Baldwin. LT Foster. B George. S Hunt. P Spiteri-Gonzi. JM Whatmore.

Welding Institute

P Jordinson. IS Karotna. CH Pearce.

Incorporated Engineers

The Council announces that the following, in membership of the appropriate engineering institution, have qualified as Incorporated Engineers entitling them to use the designatory letters IEng after their names:

British Computer Society

NG Alkorany Carter. DV Barnes. SJM Buckle. P Footman. JW Gibson. RK Kulkarni. CR Mucklow. CE Myers. RG Parry.

British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing

JR Campbell.

Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers

DJ Burton. KW Cheung. DA Cormack. G Hancox. J McDermott. A Sturt. AP Thompson. RJ Townsend.

Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management

DJ Backway. G Christodoulou. DV Cunney. GJ Parish. JC Skipper.

Institute of Acoustics

JN Burt. RL Calvert. RA Crowther.

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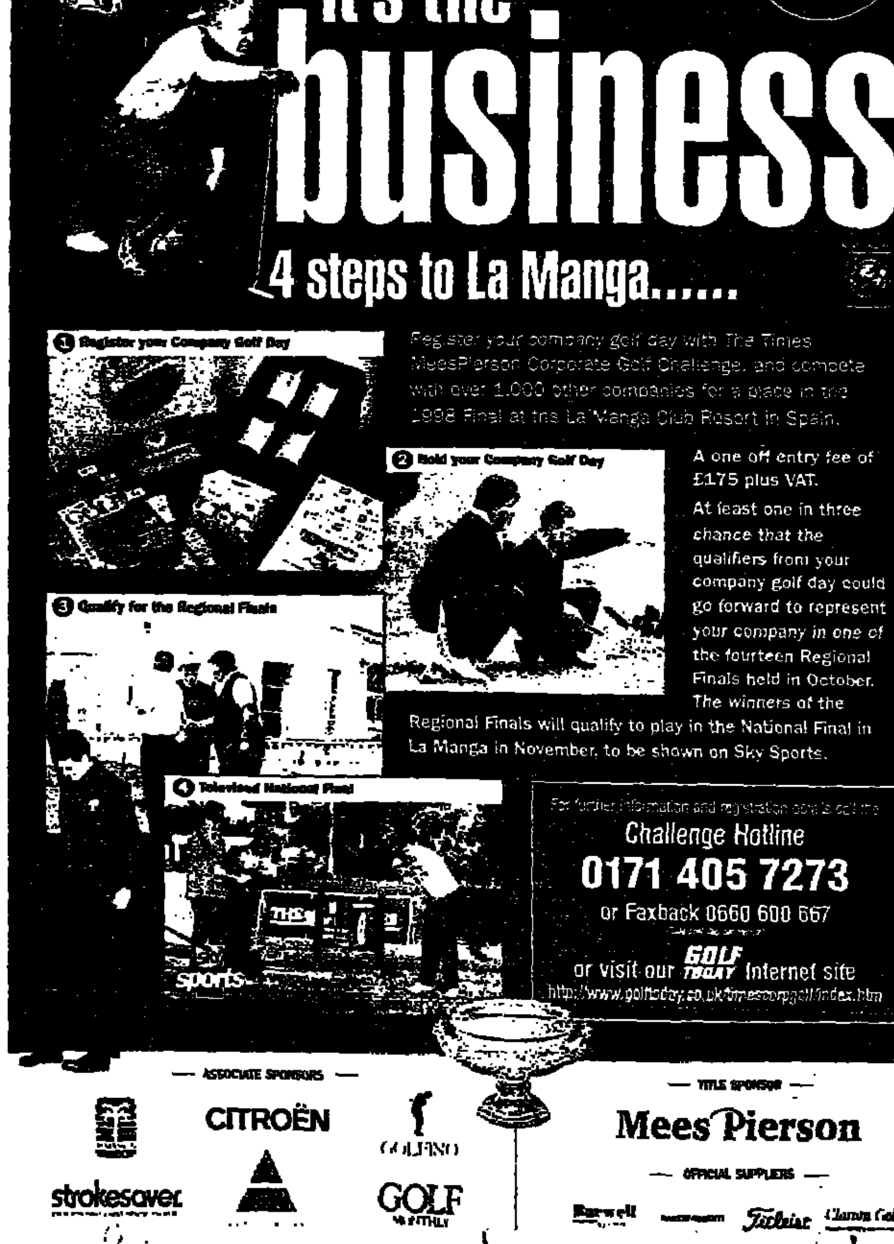
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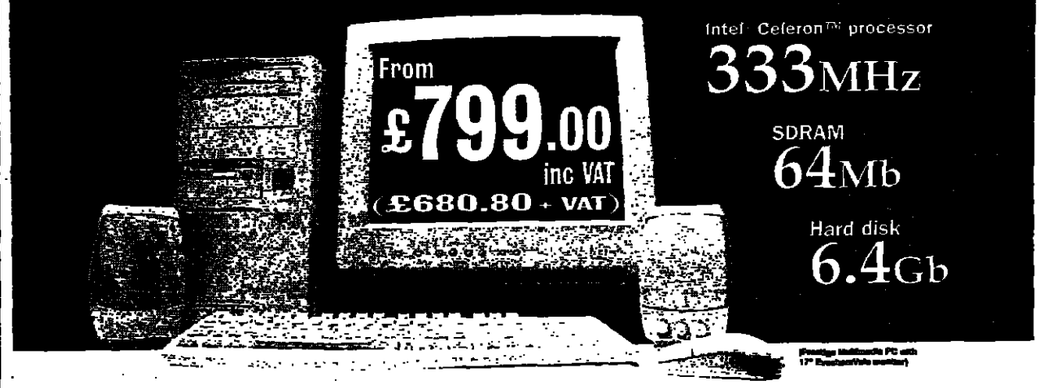
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- Intel 440EX AGPset
- 64Mb SDRAM
- 6.4Gb hard disk
- 8Mb ATI Xpert 98 AGP 3D graphics accelerator
- X56flex modem
- 30 day free Internet access
- 32x CD-ROM drive
- On-board 16-bit audio
- 15" EveshamVale FST monitor
- Zy-Fi amplified speakers
- 2 years on-site warranty for parts and labour
- 14 day moneyback guarantee
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Microsoft Football
Microsoft CART Precision Racing
Microsoft Chaos Island: Jurassic Park

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

AIB GOVETT UNIT TRUST LTD
0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Prospered Funds				
UK Safeguard	136.72	145.71	+ 0.08	
-do- NAV to Jan 19	137.71	137.71		
UK Equity Safeguard	108.53	116.07†		2.02
-do- NAV to Jan 19	108.95	108.95	..	
US Eqty Safeguard	89.12†	94.84‡		
Cash	956.55	980.23	+0.0062	5.25
UK Growth Funds				
UK Equity Gen	372.50	394.90		
UK Small Cos	77.76	83.16	..	0.50
FTSE 250 Index	95.09	102.67		1.89
Geared UK Index	2133.34	2252.17	+ 82.006	5.75
Income Funds				
Corp Bd	83.77	88.100		6.06
Monthly Inc	41.90	44.691		7.90
International Funds				
American Gen	296.10	313.36		
American Smlr	169.73	179.80		
EI US Index	2254.72	2375.68		4.50
European Gen	401.00	424.40		
European Smlr	175.70	187.91		
Japan Gen	93.99	99.86		
Asia Pacific	61.18	64.56		1.09
Pacific Smlr	72.76	77.81		
Greater China	127.21	136.05		
Latin America	50.17	53.85		
Int Growth	168.99	178.19		0.11
Balanced Exempt	169.99	179.09		1.70
Global Strategy	40.89	43.63		

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
01203 563 231
AXA Equity & Law Unit Trs

Balanced Acc	73.06	77.65		2.19
Balanced Inc	66.25	70.48		2.19
Bnf Exempt	114.30	121.60		2.18
Bnt Fndmntls Acc	152.76	162.49		4.26
Bnt Fndmntls Inc	96.59	102.80		4.26
Europe	504.50	536.70		0.45
General Acc	637.60	691.10		2.19
General Inc	579.30	722.70		2.19
Gilts Fixed Int Acc	75.21	105.20		5.61
Gilts Fixed Int Inc	99.85	105.70†		5.61
Global Opps	114.30	121.50		0.22
Higher Inc Acc #	1107.00	1178.00		4.26
Higher Inc Inc #	569.30	606.00		4.26
Japan Acc	79.59	30.42		
Pac Basin Acc	427.80	455.10		
Pac Basin Acc	207.20	220.40		4.14
UK Growth Acc	577.10	613.90		2.13
UK Growth Inc	382.50	386.60		2.13
AXA Sun Life Trusts				
Discretionary	58.71	62.45		
Extra Inc Inc #	46.77	49.09		5.84
High Yld Inc	111.98	119.09†		3.59
Inc & Gth Inc	106.50	113.09		2.48
Pacific Gth Pnd	35.02	36.82		1.15
UK Income Inc	74.55	79.31		2.56
UK Smaller Cos	40.60	43.19		2.13

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
0345 717 373

Gilts & Fixed Int	151.20	160.50†	+ 0.60	5.55
High Inc Equity	234.50	239.80	+ 4.40	4.32
Worldwide Bond	254.80	302.00†	+ 2.20	3.45
American Growth	518.80	554.20	+ 6.30	0.25
Asian Growth	149.00	159.40	+ 5.80	0.76
Assets & Earnings	249.80	272.80	+ 6.60	2.25
Fixed Capital Acc	278.10	297.40	+ 6.60	0.25
Extra Inc	41.57	44.22‡	+ 0.01	9.66
General	311.70	331.60†	+ 6.20	2.91
Global Opps	72.05	76.62	+ 1.12	0.42
Japan	71.37	75.95	+ 0.46	
Managed Inc	53.83	57.27†	+ 0.50	4.45
Mastertrust	183.70	195.50	+ 2.30	3.22
US Emerging Cos	189.60	203.10	+ 1.00	
Ethical	89.94	95.58	+ 1.30	1.89
Recovery	142.10	152.00	+ 1.80	
Smallcap Growth	83.32	88.64	+ 1.47	3.47
Ethical Gwth & Sec	80.76	86.17	+ 0.03	2.60
Latin America	39.54	42.29	+ 2.18	1.56
Capital Reserve	160.10	162.20	+ 0.30	4.36

ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0141 275 8500

M&P UK Growth	113.90	120.10	+ 1.90	1.90
Equity Income #	154.10	163.90	+ 1.00	3.95
Extra Income #	305.30	325.30	+ 2.80	4.84
Smaller Cos	85.78	91.25†	+ 0.77	2.68
International	135.70	144.30†	+ 2.50	1.12

ABERDEEN PROUFIC UT MGRS LTD
Enq: 0345 886 666 Dlg: 0800 833 580

Amer Opp Acc	298.66	314.39	+ 5.16	
Asia Pacific	44.97	46.45	+ 2.35	1.35
Emrg Mkts Inc	33.60	35.55	+ 0.05	1.19
Ethical Inc	83.23	88.07	+ 0.90	0.90
Euro Gwth Acc	131.5†	138.08	+ 1.96	
Euro Spec Opps Acc	139.15	146.81	+ 2.57	
Extra Inc Acc	209.11	219.41	+ 3.60	4.25
Extra Inc Acc	268.90	305.78	+ 4.98	4.25
FE Emrg Econ	52.96	56.03	+ 2.90	2.17
Fixed Int Inc #	28.65	30.05†	+ 0.10	8.24
Frontier Exp Inc	50.65	53.38‡	+ 1.48	
Fund Of Inv Inc #	203.00	214.83	+ 1.78	7.62
Fund Of Inv Acc	445.49	469.29	+ 3.87	7.62
Gilt Inc Inc #	51.68	53.86†	+ 0.16	6.40
Global Bond Inc	42.15	43.98	+ 0.37	4.50
Global Inc Inc	33.97	35.65	+ 0.48	3.43
Global Inc Acc	52.97	55.76	+ 0.75	3.43
High Inc Acc	150.08	157.85	+ 2.11	4.22
High Inc Inc	142.37	147.35†	+ 7.71	
Japan Inc	140.32	147.75†	+ 4.15	4.22
Latin Amer Inc	39.85	41.95	+ 1.45	
Pac Basin Inc	207.20	218.10	+ 2.90	
Pacific Opps Inc	52.18	54.92	+ 0.73	1.06
Preference Share	65.68	68.42	+ 0.08	5.70
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	177.85	179.03	+ 1.37	5.38
Managed Fund	86.73	90.35	+ 1.17	2.73
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	44.61	46.47	+ 0.35	1.36
-do- Accum	53.79	56.04	+ 0.43	1.36
UK & General	123.04	128.19	+ 3.52	2.18
-do- Accum	165.90	172.83	+ 4.77	2.18
UK Growth	244.69	254.91	+ 3.40	1.38
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	342.58	356.89	+ 6.54	
Far Eastern Gth	75.81	78.98	+ 4.27	0.45
Global Bond	74.45	77.56	+ 0.96	4.94
Japan Growth	75.91	79.06	+ 5.38	
North Amer Gth	306.91	319.73	+ 3.00	
Oversea Growth	41.75	43.48	+ 2.07	1.50
Worldwide Growth	82.95	87.47	+ 1.16	
OTHER OI TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	93.64	93.64	+ 0.04	6.71
Homemaker Fund	100.69	107.03	+ 2.10	2.75

ABRDN UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 220 0733
UK Small Cos 2309.00 2423.00

AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0771 250 5858
Retail Property # 108.40 115.30 5.50

ALLCHURCHES BW MGMT SVS LTD
01452 305 958

Amity Income	103.97	110.51†	+ 0.61	1.93
Income Builder Inc	98.82	105.13	+ 0.51	3.09

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
01293 526 911
Extended Dist Pens 141.80 147.30 .
Foundtn Pens Pnds 81.11 84.27 .

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
0131 222 4242

American Shs Cos	391.80	416.50†	+ 4.70	
Bond	126.20	134.90	+ 0.20	6.16
Brit Smlr Cos	101.50	108.00	+ 0.20	1.50
Europe	404.00	428.50	+ 1.40	
Exempt Stock Cos	137.10	135.90†	+ 0.70	0.23
High Income #	70.71	75.27†	+ 0.54	5.81
Income ———	417.00	437.30†	+ 1.80	3.65
Japan	364.80	379.10	+ 10.80	
Less American	80.06	82.89	+ 2.06	
Pacific	52.53	56.20	+ 1.16	1.21
UK Small Cos	58.68	62.43	+ 0.38	
Japanese Sm Cos	435.60	447.30	+ 14.60	
Mngd Fd	248.20	263.40	+ 3.50	2.58

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
0171 489 6873

Brit & Overs	410.00	433.60		0.80
Capital Gwth	162.50	171.90		2.31
Wrldw Overs	276.50	241.70		0.69

BARCLAYS FUNDS LTD
Customer Help Desk 0161 922 4000
Income Funds

Cash	101.10	101.10		6.99
Cash Acc	136.50	136.50		6.99
Income #	697.00	743.50†	+ 11.00	3.96
Income Builder #	79.95	85.15†	+ 1.17	4.52
Balanced Funds				
Exempt	109.30	116.20	+ 1.40	1.24
500	506.80	545.00†	+ 8.70	1.99
General	112.10	119.50	+ 0.30	1.26
Property	277.70	295.00		8.10
Tracker	286.50	306.80	+ 6.60	1.51
Growth Funds - UK				
Capital	184.00	197.00	+ 4.30	1.47
FTSE 100	135.60	143.90	+ 3.50	1.60
Smaller Cos	135.60	58.01†	+ 0.12	2.45
Smaller Cos Acc	66.62	71.04	+ 0.15	2.43
Growth Funds - Overseas				
Amurica	232.30	245.50	- 1.90	
American Growth	159.40	164.70	- 1.20	
Japan	84.23	88.83	+ 5.74	
Japan Acc	85.20	88.85	+ 5.80	
Japan Smlr Cos	38.64	40.84	+ 2.03	
Worldwide	213.70	225.90	+ 4.00	0.67
Specialist Investment Portfolios				
Managed Income	51.08	52.86†	+ 0.05	6.23
Mgd Gwth & Inc #	47.19	50.11†	+ 0.59	5
Managed Growth	46.86	50.08†	+ 1.00	0.60
Barclays Global Investors Funds				
Brokerline 0800 783 4567				
Income Funds				
Distribution #	125.90	135.50†	+ 1.50	5.24
Equity Income #	162.90	179.10	+ 2.00	3.64
Gilt & Fix Int	65.17	67.50†	+ 0.06	6.65
Int Fxd Int Acc	104.10	107.60†	+ 0.30	4.48
Int Fxd Int Acc	137.50	142.10	+ 0.40	4.48
Growth Funds - UK				
UK Growth	529.70	569.50†	+ 11.20	1.29
UK Growth Acc	536.10	570.30†	+ 11.30	1.29
Growth & Inc Acc	541.30	575.70†	+ 11.30	1.35
Growth & Inc Acc	1127	1253	+ 26.00	1.35
Growth Funds - Overseas				
Euro Growth	270.10	283.80†	+ 6.40	0.52
Euro Growth Acc	297.50	312.80	+ 7.10	0.52
Far Eastern Gwth	77.67	83.79	+ 3.89	1.58
Far East Gth Acc	133.10	143.50	+ 6.60	1.58
Customer Service Centre 0800 626262				
62 5th Mill Sth	89.77	90.361	+ 1.71	

BARING FUND MANGERS LTD
01771 214 1604

American Growth	191.60	205.20	- 2.60	
Amer Smlr Cos	131.60	140.00	- 0.50	
Eastern	112.50	120.70	+ 5.40	0.30
Equity Income #	118.40	126.80†	+ 2.00	3.60
European Growth	804.50	861.60	+ 8.30	0.40
Europe Select	458.20	491.10	+ 7.30	0.50
Foreign Growth	166.70	178.60	+ 3.30	0.50
Global Bond	77.66	81.64	+ 0.50	5.10
Global Growth	190.70	204.20	+ 4.50	0.10
Japan Growth	109.50	115.80	+ 6.60	
Japan Smaller	78.40	83.91	+ 5.21	
Korea Trust	22.32	24.20	+ 0.62	
Pacific Gth	172.30	184.60†	+ 2.30	1.80
-do- Accum	338.80	361.00	+ 4.30	1.80
UK Growth	134.90	143.90	+ 2.70	1.20
UK Smaller Cos	119.80	131.20	- 0.90	0.70

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
0171 260 3000

Intl Equity Port Inc	95.80	101.80‡		
Special Opps Inc	33.67	35.62‡		

BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD
01481 723 8620

Guernsey Growth	185.82	193.56	+ 4.16	0.45
-do- Accum	209.52	229.70	+ 4.93	0.45
Smaller Cos	172.80	179.17	+ 1.47	0.26
-do- Accum	195.18	202.52	+ 1.67	0.26
Hedge Yield #	72.37	75.99	+ 1.32	3.29
-do- Accum #	121.30	134.25	+ 2.20	3.29
American Gth Inc	142.16	148.09‡	- 1.16	
European Growth	238.36	249.29‡	+ 5.15	
-do- Accum	243.46	253.61	+ 5.26	
Managed Pfolio Inc	80.69	83.01	+ 0.96	1.35
-do- Accum	83.69	86.35	+ 1.01	1.35
Int Spec Opps	201.36	209.77	- 3.77	
Pacific Gth	78.01	82.30	+ 2.60	1.49
UK General #	124.11	129.28	+ 2.46	2.35
-do- Accum #	129.90	149.73	+ 2.78	2.35
Japan	36.59	38.10‡	- 1.06	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	113.53	117.84‡	- 0.41	6.88

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0171 480 7216
Short Dated Gilt 66.10 66.94 + 0.11 5.76

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0161 827 5080

Income	226.90	238.90	+ 4.40	1.49
UK Growth	271.20	285.50†	+ 5.30	1.70
Balanced	224.10	235.90	+ 4.30	1.74

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Recovery #	82.130	..	+0.170	2.95
South E Asia †	112.00	..	+ 7.30	1.97
Special Sits †	893.10	..	+ 4.30	1.27
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	127.47	127.47	+ 0.05	7.10

FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 814 2700

Balanced #	156.60	158.30†		2.10
Flexibury Pri Inc #	115.30	116.30†	+ 0.70	5.50
Cap Plate	192.80	195.20†	+ 1.70	0.04
Carousel Opps	172.60	174.10		3.44
Growth Inc	48.07	48.85	+ 0.77	0.85
Private Portfolio	587.50	592.60†		0.95

FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT
Dlg 01277 690 365 Admin/Fst 01277 690 350

Euro Smlr Cos	236.70	241.30†	+ 3.10	
High Income	24.32	22.58†	+ 0.39	9.95
UK Smlr Cos	31.05	33.21	+ 0.13	2.07
US Smaller Cos	475.60	507.70	- 1.60	

FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD
Dlg 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 715611

American Growth	115.60	122.40	- 0.90	
-do- Accum	115.60	122.40	- 0.90	
Amer Smlr Cos	604.30	646.50†	+ 0.20	
-do- Accum	617.30	660.50†	+ 0.20	
Capital Tst	395.90	413.70	+ 0.80	1.26
-do- Accum	589.90	618.00	+ 1.50	1.26
Cont Smlr Cos	75.96	81.61	+ 1.26	
-do- Accum	81.52	87.58	+ 1.36	
Countryside	152.90	162.70	+ 0.70	0.63
-do- Accum	352.70	385.90	+ 1.80	0.63
Emerging Markets	33.69	35.35	+ 0.31	0.07
-do- Accum	33.69	35.66	+ 0.32	0.07
European	224.80	238.20	+ 3.80	
Health Fund Inc	238.00	253.20	+ 4.00	
-do- Accum	451.60	481.10†	+ 9.50	3.96
Income & Growth	204.50	218.30	+ 0.90	
-do- Accum	204.10	218.30	+ 0.90	
Int Growth	264.50	281.40	+ 5.80	3.05
-do- Accum	467.70	497.70	+ 10.20	3.05
Int Growth	467.70	497.70	+ 4.00	
-do- Accum	516.30	552.70	+ 4.50	
Japan & Dev	104.80	110.70	+ 0.50	
-do- Accum	105.80	111.90	+ 0.70	
Monthly Inc #	231.60	246.40†	+ 1.40	3.61
-do- Accum #	247.80	263.60†	+ 4.70	3.61
Managed Port Inc	126.10	132.70	+ 1.50	1.52
-do- Accum	140.40	147.80	+ 1.80	1.52
Quarterly Income #	63.74	66.12	+ 0.34	4.50
-do- Accum #	79.80	85.29†	+ 0.74	4.50
UK Growth	78.11	83.10†	+ 1.11	1.20
-do- Accum	87.56	93.14†	+ 1.25	1.20

FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS
Dealing 0870 600 5300 Enq 0870 809 9300

FP American	81.76	86.84	- 0.68	
FP Am Smlr Cos	180.60	192.60	- 0.30	
FP Asian Growth	117.80	125.40	- 0.60	
FP Australian	375.20	400.20†	+12.20	
FP Equity Dist	577.60	616.30	+ 12.00	1.66
-do- Accum	1329.00	1417.00	+ 28.00	1.66
FP Euro Gth	458.60	489.10	+ 10.40	
-do- Accum	542.40	578.50	+ 12.30	
FP Fnd Bond	59.63	63.10†	+ 0.51	3.88
FP Ind Gth Dist	45.48	48.51	+ 0.70	0.02
-do- Accum	87.95	71.52	+ 1.02	0.02
FP Pac Basin Acc	142.40	151.70	+ 1.60	0.14
FP Income #	71.43	76.22	+ 1.36	4.44
-do- Accum #	277.90	296.40	+ 5.20	4.44
FP Jap Smlr Cos	145.20	154.80	+ 4.70	
FP Monthly Dist #	88.50	94.40†	+ 1.00	4.80
FP Sdg Deposit	101.10	101.10		5.61
FP Tglng	99.65	93.99	+ 3.02	
FP UK Focus	54.28	57.90	+ 1.29	1.76
FP UK Growth	254.70	271.60	+ 6.00	1.22
-do- Accum	531.40	566.80	+ 12.50	1.22
Stewardship Dist	480.00	512.00	+ 3.50	1.75
-do- Accum	518.70	558.90	+ 4.40	1.75
Stewdshp Inc Dist #	79.03	84.29†	+ 0.77	4.32
-do- Accum #	118.30	126.10	+ 1.20	4.32
Stewdshp Accum	188.80	177.90	+ 1.40	
-do- Accum	189.00	191.90	+ 1.40	
FP Exempt Trust				
Inc Ethical Inc #	127.00	127.80	+ 2.10	2.55
Inc Ethical Acc #	132.00	132.80	+ 2.10	2.55
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	148.00	157.40	- 0.80	0.60
Open Cap Gth Acc	142.80	151.90	- 0.40	
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	133.10	141.50†	- 0.30	3.31
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	147.30	156.60†	- 0.30	3.31
Cap Op Gth Inc #	133.70	142.10†	- 0.20	3.34
Ope Cp Gth Ic Ac #	151.00	160.60†	- 0.10	3.34

GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0345 581 1057

GM&IA	366.80	389.50	+ 6.00	1.21
Cash	49.52	50.76†	+ 0.01	6.29
Income Portfolio	85.51	92.12†	+ 1.26	2.52
GA Equity Gth	265.60	282.60	+ 4.70	0.60
GA European Gth	198.90	211.30	+ 5.60	
GA Japan Gth	68.87	72.70	+ 4.14	
GA Nth Amer Gth	307.10	323.30	+ 4.90	
GA Intl Gth	141.70	150.70	+ 2.90	0.14

GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD
Inv 0800 2122?4 Dealing 0171 626 9431

American Smlr Cos	206.60	221.00	- 0.40	0.15
European Gth	968.10	1030.00	+30.00	0.16
Euro Gth & Bd Inc	66.40	70.31	+ 1.34	2.64
-do- Accum	76.07	82.56	+ 1.57	2.64
High Yield #	95.70	98.30†	+ 0.23	6.58
-do- Accum #	89.71	77.66	+ 0.26	6.59
Income Inc	232.30	247.80†	+ 5.60	3.23
-do- Accum	270.60	289.60	+ 7.00	3.23
Intl Growth	388.10	422.20	+ 5.40	1.96
Intl Income	132.60	140.20	+ 1.50	2.54
Japan Growth	375.80	397.60	+ 5.70	0.03
Overst Inc	94.88	100.90	+ 2.63	
UK Blue Chip Inc	238.70	255.20†	+ 4.90	0.71
UK Blue Chip Acc	435.20	465.50†	+ 9.00	0.71
UK Sm Cos Div Acc	86.83	92.80†	+ 0.50	1.25
US Growth	231.10	244.50	- 2.80	

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only 01277 264 421

UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	78.56	75.07†	+ 0.96	1.60
Practical Inv Inc #	140.32	150.07	+ 1.19	3.21
-do- Accum #	350.40	374.76	+ 3.01	3.21
UK Index	233.34	224.46†	+ 3.50	2.58
UA Smaller Cos	200.88	216.53	- 2.79	1.19
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	35.47	37.43†	+ 0.04	7.07
High Income	44.18	47.05†	+ 0.52	4.04
UA Growth & Inc	196.77	209.52†	+ 2.93	3.12
Global Bond	28.56	29.62	+ 0.28	4.96
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	27.18	29.05	+ 0.04	
Global Managed	158.66	168.71	+ 0.48	0.86
Gold & Intl Res	54.08	57.84	+ 3.53	
Global Diffrnc	214.45	228.08	+ 2.66	1.30
Overseas Funds				
American	233.70	247.55	- 3.93	
European	200.45	212.91	+ 2.32	0.60
Euro Sel Opps	338.42	359.82†	+ 3.43	
Asia Emerging	154.11	164.93	- 0.54	
Hong Kong	89.52	95.54	+ 2.58	3.84
Japan	127.70	135.12	+ 7.30	
Pacific Growth	114.19	121.65	+ 4.10	1.55
Sentinel Pensions Strategy Funds				
Cash Trust	169.75	180.75	+ 0.07	7.11
Managed Equity	253.40	269.40	+ 4.54	4.47
Long Term Bal	317.21	317.21	+ 3.54	2.53
Mod Term Bal	272.27	272.27	+ 2.30	2.91
UK Equity	379.13	379.13	+ 5.71	1.11
UK Emerging Cos	170.41	181.41	+ 0.96	2.44
American	411.95	411.95‡	+ 7.15	0.23
Japan	81.78	81.78‡	+ 4.53	
European	525.18	525.18‡	+ 6.98	0.80
Index Linked Gilt	234.01	234.01‡	- 0.05	3.28
Fixed Interest	222.71	222.71‡	+ 0.25	5.90
Amer Emerging	351.55	351.55‡	+ 1.35	
Pacific	101.51	101.51	+ 4.09	2.04
Emerging Mkts	78.14	78.14‡	- 0.41	1.56
Index Global	85.75	85.75‡	+ 0.46	2.47
-do- Pacific Rim	90.58	90.58‡	+ 5.03	4.38
-do- Cons Europe	284.50	284.50‡	+ 4.18	1.33
Index Stat USA	259.43	259.43‡	- 2.29	1.14
Guernsey Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	138.27	147.98	+ 2.30	
Mod Term Bal	136.44	138.76	+ 1.18	
Long Term Bal	143.36	152.54	+ 1.71	
UK Equity	177.46	188.79	+ 2.87	
UA Emerging Cos	90.70	96.54	+ 0.49	
American	191.80	204.04	+ 2.57	
Japan	39.17	41.66	+ 2.32	
European	219.39	233.39	+ 2.76	
Fixed Interest	116.66	124.10	+ 0.86	
Index Linked Gilt	104.81	111.49	+ 0.32	
Deposit	98.17	104.44	- 0.05	
Stelter Unit Trusts				
BWM Intl	161.65	170.16	- 0.41	0.50

GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT
GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990

Intl Gwth Inc †	739.97		+13.27	0.48
-do- Accum †	838.69		+15.04	0.48
European Gth Inc †	529.70		+ 2.78	0.73
Arbitrage Inc	189.97	190.43	+ 0.08	
N Amer Gwth Inc †	533.56		- 1.66	
-do- Accum †	173.22		- 1.09	0.45
-do- Accum †	182.72		- 0.52	1.59
UK Gwth Inc †	724.65			

GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD
01771 655 5000

UK Growth	662.70	911.00	+20.40	
Gilt & Fixed	150.20	159.30†	+ 0.80	4.63
Growth Equity	494.90	526.70	+10.50	1.30
Income Trust	192.40	205.50	+ 3.10	3.41
International	279.80	295.50	+ 3.60	
Japan Trust	80.05	85.52	+ 1.56	
Nth American	430.30	458.50	- 4.30	
Pacific	349.90	368.90	+17.10	1.25
Europlan	716.40	765.30†	+15.90	1.26

GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD
01771 522 2129

European Bond	104.88	108.04†	- 1.37	3.89
Global High Inc	92.18	95.66	- 1.89	4.65
Glbl Bond Hdg	130.53	135.11	- 1.47	4.57
Calc Mgd Pfio	133.64	142.89	- 1.21	4.39
European Pfio	164.97	186.03	- 2.47	
Global Mgd Pfio	87.57	93.10	+ 0.97	
Uk Eq Inc Pfio	174.01	185.02†	+ 2.60	2.91
Pacific Pfio	271.78	288.97	+ 4.04	2.91
UK Opps	469.00	498.70	+ 4.60	3.54
-do- Accum	576.80	613.40	+ 5.70	3.51
20 Year High Inc	148.26	160.59†	+ 1.47	5.92
UK Emerg Cos	272.30	289.50	+ 3.20	3.64
Inco UK Sm Co	346.39	363.09	+ 3.70	4.69
Inco UK Mid Tst	143.80	153.02	+ 4.87	1.43
Inc Recovery	150.57	160.20	+ 1.60	3.56
Inc Share Tst	113.58	120.76†	+ 2.09	7.39
Nth & Overs Tst	53.43	56.81	+ 4.00	1.83
Blue Chip Pfio	306.43	325.81†	+ 5.97	1.17

HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD
Dealing: 01904 611119

Extra Income Acc	75.47	77.62†	+ 1.07	2.42
Extra Income Inc	75.47	80.04	+ 1.19	2.42
Growth	40.75	43.19†	+ 0.90	1.56
Growth Acc	43.37	45.99	+ 0.96	1.56
Income	37.19	39.44†	+ 0.80	3.54
Income Acc	42.50	45.06	+ 0.91	3.54
Accumulation Tst	34.89	37.00	+ 0.78	2.74

HARGREAVES LANSDOWN FUND MGRS LTD
Enquiries: 01277 890 230 Dealing: 01277 890 412
Gilt Port Acc 52.87 56.10 + 0.69 2.71

HENDERSON INVESTORS
Enquiries: 0845 4646466 Dealing: 0845 4646466

UK Funds				
UK Enterprise	416.34	445.47†	- 10.46	0.13
Inc Bd of Scotish	86.59	91.94	+ 0.72	7.02
UK Smaller Cos	179.32	190.62†	+ 3.79	0.73
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	327.12	400.63	- 6.57	7.67
Income #	1126.67	1200.11	- 19.00	5.46
High Income	414.12	442.66†	- 4.53	3.77
Extra Income #	357.55	382.24†	- 3.76	5.02
Prof & Bond	80.97	84.00†	+ 0.62	6.47
International				
Global	153.19	163.83†	- 2.45	2.16
International	349.96	369.80	- 1.86	3.55
Global Bond	53.66	56.49†	- 0.45	5.04
Intl Pac Tst	111.15	118.83	+ 0.26	0.05
Global Tech	297.50	318.34	+ 2.29	
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	115.72	123.75	- 5.66	7.51
European	945.20	998.16	+11.29	0.09

Shares squeezed higher

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
646	485	Allied Domecq	512	+ 9	4.8	12.5
412½	295	Bulmer (HP)	337½	..	5.6	14.6
42½	8½	Burn Stewart	11	..	19.3	
795	432	Diageo	616½	+ 30½	3.6	26.9
900	755	Glenmorangie A	830	..	2.1	19.3
325	225	Highland Dist	232	+ 1½	4.8	10.7
215	140	Matthew Clark	141½	..	11.5	4.8
59½	35½	Minmet IT	35½			
2021½	809½	SA Breweries	887½	+ 40½	3.6	13.8

BANKS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1618½	1178½	ABN-AMRO	1300	- 18½	2.5	18.3
1345	951	Abbey Natl	1140	+ 47	3.5	16.8
1032	585	Alliance & Leic	881½	+ 13	3.3	18.2
1000	587½	Allied Irish	702	- 10	2.8	19.5
458½	293½	Aus New Z	311½	+ 11½	6.6	
6075	3584¾	Bank America	3584¾	- 131½		
813	431	Bank Scotland	625	+ 25	2.0	16.7
1996	1068	Barclays	1308	- 78	3.7	12.0
1332½	886½	Bk of Ireland	893	- 7	2.8	14.5
£109¾	5531¼	Citicorp	5531¼	- 265½		
1690¾	1565¾	Commerzbk	1684¾	+ 12½	3.2	
543¾	237½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	296¼	+ 18½	1.3	63.7
5368¾	3665¾	Deutsche Bk	3750	+ 84½	1.7	
1206½	1153¼	Espirito Santo	1169¼	+ 3½	3.2	
531	163½	Fuji Bank Y	179	+ 8½	2.2	34.4
2073	1130	HSBC	1243	+ 113	5.2	11.4
2002	937	HSBC HK	1205	+ 105	5.4	11.0
1000	648½	Halifax	730	+ 7½	4.2	20.1
842½	587	Irish Perm	620	+ 2½	2.6	18.0
1090	652	Lloyds TSB	713	+ 54½	3.3	20.5
916½	735	Nat Aust Bk	758½	+ 23½	4.4	
1244	751	Nat West	957	+ 18	4.4	18.4
673	455	Northern Rock	508	- 14	2.7	15.9
1140	565	Ryl Bk Scot	840	+ 16	3.3	15.6
1050	415	Stand Chart	448	+ 30½	5.4	7.6
£164¾	£164¾	Wells Fargo	£164¾	..	1.8	
439	315½	Westpac	331	+ 15¼	3.9	
400	300	Woolwich	334	+ 5	3.7	16.1

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
332½	260	Ann Street Grp	270	..	10.6	8.0
1195	785	Bass	870	+ 54	4.1	15.1
81½	50½	Brit for the Bdrl	52	..	4.8	16.9
197½	144½	Burtonwd Brw	162½	..	4.8	11.4
162½	95	City Centre Rest	96	..	3.6	14.8
700	230½	Compass Grp	566	+ 12	1.0	37.2
342½	227½	Eldridge P 'A'	230½	+ ½	3.4	11.3
384½	234	Enterprise Inns	243½	+ 2	4.0	14.0
552½	425	Fuller Sm 'A'	510	..	2.8	14.4
528	346	Greenalls Grp	388½	+ 6½	5.9	8.7
780	521	Greene King	557½	+ 6	4.1	10.2
358	212½	Groupe Chez Ger	225	+ 7½	1.9	15.6
281½	204½	Hardy Hansn	205	+ ½	7.2	8.9
2175	1750	Hall J	1755	..	4.8	8.5
76	46½	Inn Business	48½	..	4.8	6.6
317	242	Mansfield	243½	..	4.1	9.3
360½	204½	Mitchls Thmp	204½	- ½	5.4	8.8
472½	350	Morland	357½	..	4.7	9.5
384½	225½	Old Eng Pub	227½	+ ½	1.6	18.1
35	21½	Paramount	22½			
950	562½	PizzaExpress	641½	+ 8	0.7	29.0
377½	205	Ramsdens (H)	212½	- 2½	3.9	22.4
388½	132½	Regent Inns	148½	+ 9½	3.0	10.6
237½	136½	SFI	145	+ 3½	1.0	18.3
950	701	Scot & New	768½	+ 16½	3.8	14.5
303½	197½	Slug & Lettuce	210	+ ½	3.9	
361	227	Vaux Group	360½	+ 8	5.4	10.8
342	167½	Wetherspoon JD	193½	+ 3½	1.3	20.8
1145	700	Whitbread	751	+ 24	4.3	13.5
568½	410	Wolvrhmptn D	417	- ½	5.8	9.0
556½	312½	Yates Bros	312½	- 1½	1.4	18.3
837½	612½	Young A	615	..	3.3	21.8

BUILDING MATERIALS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
76½	49½	Aggregate Inds	61½	+ 2½	3.6	21.3
269	188	Anglian Group	189	..	6.8	10.3
447	275	BPB	295	+ 3	3.7	13.2
118½	71½	Baggeridge Brk	74½	..	6.0	8.0
62½	35½	Blockleys	38½	+ 1	1.5	44.0
407	261	Blue Circle	276½	- 1½	5.2	10.4
149	74½	Breedon PLC	96½	+ 5	7.5	11.7
945	644	CRH	727½	+ 3½	1.5	18.1
62½	45½	Caledonia Roy	45½	..	10.8	3.7
155½	107½	Cape	130½	..	6.2	11.2
215½	134½	Caradon	145	+ 2	7.1	10.7
116½	97½	Caradon pf	98½	..	9.2	
130½	50	Cluefnbn Gp	50½	..	10.6	3.6
425	212½	Dyson (J&J)	415	..	1.8	22.5
120	75	Dyson 'A'	100	..	7.5	5.4
60½	34½	Ennstone	38	+ ½	..	23.8
197½	123½	Epwin	136½	+ 1½	9.2	7.1
159½	101½	Gibbs & Dandy	130½	+ ¼	3.9	10.2
203	107½	Graham Grp	114½	..	6.8	9.8
232½	177½	Halstead (J)	180	+ 2½	6.9	12.0
395	245	Hanson	332½	+ 8	4.5	11.5
265	145	Hepworth	153	+ 6	7.4	
178½	96½	Hewetson	100	..	9.4	5.4
294½	202½	Heywd Wstn	211½	- ½	8.2	8.0
66	37	Ibstock	43	+ 3½	6.8	8.4
365	250	Johnston	315	..	4.8	17.0
107½	59½	Lilleshall	59½	..	10.5	5.9
129½	75½	Marley	83½	..	7.6	6.6
162½	105	Marshalls	123½	+ 6½	4.0	7.5
445½	244	Meyer Int	268½	+ 3	6.3	16.1
77½	60½	Morcron	61	..	3.8	11.0
149½	67	Prlangton	69	+ 1½	7.2	37.7
24	11½	Pulkington	12			
196	100½	Pursyoe	111	+ 5	3.9	8.3
1400	740	RMC	784	+ 26	4.2	11.4
117½	76½	Rebocrat	86½	..	7.1	9.9
143	72½	Rugby Group	80½	+ 2	6.2	11.6
103½	71½	Russell (A)	71½	- 7	5.2	10.8
276	148	SIG	153	..	6.4	7.8
3½	1½	SWP	1½			
237½	147½	Sharpe & Fisher	147½	..	5.3	9.1
25	9	Spring Ram	9½	+ ½	1.3	
133½	8	Tarmac	81	+ 3½	8.7	9.7
125	82	Titan	82	..	8.1	8.2
628½	379	Travis Perkins	409½	+ 6	3.4	12.4
107½	60½	Tudor	62½	+ 1	6.0	8.1
372	180½	Vaalkams	217½	..	2.0	18.4
570	285	Wolseley	294	+ 4	4.9	9.5

CHEMICALS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
191½	103½	Abingdn & Wd	105	..	6.8	10.4
142½	77½	Amber Ind	79	+ 1½	9.1	6.7
118	72½	Amberley Grp	72½	..	3.2	11.1
100	67½	Athlone Ex	67½	..	12.6	11.0
3153½	2003½	BASF DM	2334¾	+ 49½	3.1	
1109	715	BOC	805	+ 15	4.3	17.8
581	331½	BTP	397½	..	3.8	17.9
26½	14½	Banner Chem	15	..	10.0	5.8
3221½	2131½	Bayer DM50	2309¾	+ 37½	2.6	
193½	142	Blagden	142½	..	2.5	9.2
126	94½	Brent Chems	98½	..	3.8	11.1
342½	197½	Br Vita	230	+ 16½	5.0	10.6
187½	128½	Brunner Mond	185½	..	5.9	10.2
296	189½	Canning (W)	191½	- 6	5.9	9.2
229½	155	City Technology	158	..	3.8	30.5
574	234	Courtaulds	447	..	3.7	27.1
469	280½	Croda	280½	..	3.7	15.8
370½	203½	Doeflex	365½	+ 21	3.0	14.6
178	84½	Elementis	88	+ 1½	2.3	11.2
315½	228½	Ellis & Everard	230	- 1	5.8	9.4
78½	53½	Euro Colour	57	..	5.5	9.9
94½	38½	Hickson	50	..	3.2	7.3
3216½	2096½	Hoechst	2500	+ 121½	2.1	
1244	582	ICI	652	+ 35	5.1	21.7
337½	189	Incpec	335½	- 1½	2.5	16.4
193½	55½	Kalon	94	- 1½	8.2	15.7
890½	527½	Laporte	527½	- 2½	4.9	10.6
75	29½	Menstem	30½	..	9.8	2.9
35	28	Mexored	28½	..	6.6	6.8
380	225	Porvair	236	..	3.4	13.1
231	150	Scapa	153	- ½	5.0	10.1
1761½	1437½	Takeda Chem	1729	+ 65	0.6	21.3
348	147½	Victrex	158½	- 1½	3.9	12.6
665	517½	Wilshire R	530	..	6.5	8.3
240	137	Yorks Grp	146	+ 6½	8.2	9.2
440	281½	Yule Catto	283½	+ 1	4.4	11.6

CONSTRUCTION

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
58½	19½	AAF Inds	33½	..	..	4.3
375	230	Abbey	230	- 20	4.4	
420	332½	Alen	384	+ 2	3.5	15.7
217½	114	Amec	152	+ 2	4.5	12.3
875	400	Amey	572½	- 2½	2.5	15.3
260	142½	Andrews Sykes	147½	..	2.5	14.7
261½	180	Ashtead	185½	+ 3	1.5	18.6
48½	29½	Avonside	36	..	6.2	5.6
46	28½	Bandi	31½	..	5.8	8.8
341	156½	Barratt Devs	164½	+ 7	7.1	7.2
256	128	Beazer	142½	+ 10	6.0	8.0
401½	227½	Bellway	246½	+ 9	4.8	8.2
30	18½	Belwinch	29½	..	10.1	
95½	46½	Ben Bailey	65	+ 2½	4.8	6.3
784½	496½	Berkeley Gp	514	+ 7½	2.5	8.5
170	113	Bell Bros	123	..	7.0	3.4
315	180	Boot (Henry)	181½	+ 1½	5.9	8.8
216½	157½	Bovis Homes	167½	+ 1	7.0	7.3
42½	30½	Britannia Grp	37½	..	4.7	15.1
155½	76½	Bryant	91½	+ 4½	7.1	6.7
129½	96½	CALA	103½	..	5.5	
4	3	Campbell & Arm	3			
141½	83½	Clarke Tt	97½	..	8.5	5.9
42½	19½	Costain	20			
125½	82	Countryside	85½	..	4.8	6.7
145½	92½	Crest Nicholson	97½	+ 1½	5.1	6.4
127½	69½	Cussins	70	..	8.1	5.4
288	160	Eve Group	220	..	4.0	12.4
33½	15	Galliford	19½	+ ¼	8.3	9.1
1100	850	Gleeson (MJ)	850	..	2.7	12.5
175	90	Havelock Euro	81½	..	7.3	5.5
212	126	Hewden-Stuart	140	+ 2	3.2	16.8
30	18½	Howard Hldgs	19	..	6.6	18.9
786	369½	Jarvis	496½	- 5	2.0	18.8
252½	164½	Kellert	167½	+ 1½	4.0	10.5
250½	198½	Kier	219½	..	4.1	11.0
370	309½	Laing (J)	346	..	3.7	18.6
137½	111½	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	112	..	7.1	
15	8½	Lovell (YJ)	12½			
212½	155½	Maunders (J)	209½	..	3.8	12.1
181½	106½	McAlpine (A)	120	+ 6½	7.8	7.1
191½	111½	McCarthy & S	111½	- ½	3.7	8.1
144½	70	McInerney	127½	..	1.0	14.5
253½	171½	Morgan Sindall	201	..	3.5	9.7
397½	301	Morrison Cons	314½	..	2.3	15.9
150	77½	Mowlem (J)	100	+ 1	5.0	8.2
248½	139½	Persimmon	157½	+ 3½	8.0	6.8
109½	74½	Peterhouse	80½	..	5.7	5.6
128½	112	Pochins	116½	- 2	3.0	12.9
158½	98½	Prowting	101½	..	5.7	6.4
139	124½	Redrow	144½	+ 6	3.2	10.7
325	222½	Spandex	317½	..	1.5	18.3
94½	53½	Swan Hill	60	..	5.7	10.9
142½	110½	Tay Homes	120	+ ½	7.9	9.7
358	133½	Taylor Woodrw	148	+ 4	3.0	11.2
308	190	Tilbury Dough	238½	+ 2½	5.0	13.1
29½	18½	Try Group	19	..	3.9	6.9
98	62½	Vibroplant	64	..	7.9	
139½	90½	Wainhomes	90½	..	7.3	
69	27½	Ward Hldgs	31	..	8.9	
272½	169½	Westbury	169½	+ 1	5.4	7.3
16	10½	Wiggins	12½	+ ½		
191	109½	Wilson (C)	110½	- 1	6.4	7.5
733	492½	Wilson Bowdn	516½	+ 4	3.2	9.4
143½	92½	Wimpey G	106	+ 2	6.7	8.8

DISTRIBUTORS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
257½	182½	Achen Co Sofs	201½	+ 1	1.7	15.8
359	220	Adam & Harvey	222½	..	12.1	4.0
24½	9½	Alexanders	14½	..	..	29.1
3	1	Ass Br Eng	1½			
457	318½	BSS Group	322½	..	8.5	10.1
20½	10½	Beanop Power	11½			
35½	30½	Bogod 'A'	30½	..	4.5	4.9
735	485	Brammer	487½	..	4.4	10.9
16½	10½	Bridgend Go	13½	..	1.9	21.5
113½	72½	Brit Fittings	94	+ 7½	6.8	7.8
372½	300	Caffyns	310	..	5.6	8.3
206	10½	Car Group	11	..	..	1.3
175½	132½	Cavendish	133½	..	4.2	8.5
54½	31½	Cook (DC)	37½	..	8.5	7.4
139½	86½	Dig Motors	103½	..	10.6	5.6
125½	102½	Dennans El	107½	..	8.5	7.1
276	151½	Diploma	155	+ 2½	11.7	6.5
601	307	Electrocomponents	366	+ 16	3.1	19.4
186	94½	Enrodis Elec	95	..	7.6	10.5
122	79½	European Mkt	80	..	8.5	6.1
305	184	Evans Halshaw	184½	+ ½	11.9	5.7
87½	39½	File Indnar	82½	+ 3	5.8	8.9
400½	212½	Finelist Grp	221	- ½	5.2	
28	14	Gardiner	14½	+ ½	9.0	8.2
82½	59	Glenchewton	59½	- ½	4.6	7.5
135½	89½	Gowrings	102½	..	4.5	8.9
20½	12½	HR Owen	14½	..	6.9	9.4
405	250	Headlam	255	..	3.7	12.3
160	105	Holders Tech	107½	..	7.8	5.9
120	39½	ISA Intl	58½	+ 1½	6.9	8.3
250	136½	Inchcape	154	+ ½	7.8	18.8
80	55½	Jacks (Wm)	56½	..	7.7	5.3
583½	351½	Kwik-Fit	388½	+ 9½	2.0	18.0
614	402½	Lex Service	433½	+ 5½	5.3	10.1
123	77½	Lookers	79	- ½	13.1	5.1
575	351	Menzies (John)	520	..	3.7	14.9
5½	1½	Middlesex	2			
29½	14½	Midstsnst	20½	..	2.9	5.3
328½	220	Norbain	234	- 1	5.2	11.3
281	157½	Northamber	174½	+ 2½	2.1	11.8
342	169½	Partco	177½	+ 6½	6.5	10.8
312½	169	Pendragon	169	- 2	7.9	8.0
256	138½	Perry Gp	140	..	8.7	5.2
443	210	Premier Farnell	212½	- 1	7.8	8.4
164½	107½	Quicks Group	107½	- ½	9.3	8.9
285	85	REA	95	..	4.2	18.3
3	1½	Reece	1½			
38½	21½	Ring	25½	+ 2½		
12½	4½	Rolison	4½			
5½	3½	Ross Gp	3½	..	..	8.4
112½	69½	Ryland	69½	- ½	8.3	5.0
31½	22	SEP Indl	23½	+ ½	7.0	11.0
30	10	Saltire	12			
290	177½	Sanderson Bram	181	+ 3½	4.1	6.1
67½	37½	Sedgemoor	38	..	8.6	9.1
273½	177	Symer	178	- 1½	4.8	8.4
196½	85	Time Products	89½	..	17.5	4.9
235	132½	Inst Motor Grp	227½	..	1.4	4.0
440	305	UNIECO	308	..	2.8	14.2
124	74	United Ocean Gp	77½	..	1.8	17.8
299½	195	Vardy (Reg)	196½	+ 1	5.2	8.2
840	655	WF Elect	805	..	2.8	20.0
192½	97½	Wyko	99	..	4.5	
165½	115	Young (H)	115½	..	5.1	7.8

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
330	168½	Antofagasta	175	+ 4	4.1	12.8
642	406½	Broken Hill	467½	+ 15½	3.9	
770	466½	BAT	577	..	4.9	16.5
43½	16½	Brierley Inv	16½	- ½	17.8	4.3
277½	190½	Cocall	190½	- 4	7.6	6.4
613	377½	DCC	377½	- 17½	2.5	12.2
410	302	Gallaher	400	+ 22½	6.0	11.4
450½	235	Hutch Whamp	305½	+ 31½	4.1	
565½	383½	Imperial Tob	520	..	5.2	12.5
335½	93½	Jardine Math	112½	+ 11½	13.3	5.4
94½	48½	Lonrho Africa	49	..	5.9	12.3
623½	420	Powell Duffryn	421	+ 1	7.4	10.6
147	92½	Staveley	94	..	12.0	23.3
369½	158½	Swire Pacific	180½	+ 18	7.6	5.7
393½	231	Tomkins	248	+ 8	5.5	10.3
250	175	Unilane	177½	..	9.1	9.0
570	345	Wardle Storeys	345	- 2½	7.6	10.0
381½	245½	Wassall	250	+ ½	3.1	11.4
135½	49	Whitecroft	49½	..	11.7	8.1

ELECTRICITY

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
615½	310	Br Energy	575	+ 18	3.2	21.6
454	298½	National Grid	427	+ 17½	3.5	21.6
700	470	National Power	527	+ 11	6.4	11.2
900	701	PowerGen	830	+ 44	4.4	13.0
608	502½	Hydro-Electric	577½	+ 17½	4.2	12.8
637	475	Scottish Power	619	+ 8	4.1	15.0
620	487	Southern Elect	582	+ 22	5.1	15.1
625	522	Viridian	572½	+ 12½	5.0	13.0

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1325	715	ARM Holdings	1105	+ 10		
410	233½	Acal	240	..	5.7	8.4
1492½	690	Admiral	965	+ 12½	0.4	44.6
58½	27½	Amstrad	30	+ 1	2.1	
35	25	Artes	29½	..	6.3	8.5
129½	63	Astec	63½	..	2.8	7.1
77½	43½	Azlan	47½			
182½	81½	BICC	87½	+ ½	12.0	
460	260	Birk	379	..	4.8	12.4
604½	345½	Bowthorpe	411½	+ 1½	3.4	15.7
18	12	Bulgin A	13½	..	11.8	7.7
265½	149½	CML Micro	164	..	5.3	15.4
27½	8	Channel Hldgs	9½	+ 1	7.2	
51	38½	Chloride	45½	+ ½	2.2	13.9
912½	555	Critchley	560	- 5	3.2	13.4
342½	121½	Delta	132	..	12.3	5.1
451	392	Domino	405½	..	3.9	13.9
77½	45½	Dowding Mills	46½	..	8.6	8.8
320	240	Dowdt	302½	..	0.8	26.9
1250	825	Electrolux 'B'	858½	+ 40½	9.8	25.4
28	17	Eness	21½	..	3.4	17.9
2006½	1065½	Ericsson 'B'	1393½	+ 40½	0.9	30.1
491½	311	Eurotherm	425	..	2.9	18.7
590	248½	Farey Group	261½	..	4.5	7.5
587½	395	Filtronic	443½	+ 2	0.6	26.0
18½	7½	Forward Tech	10½			
577½	338	GEC	489	+ 42	3.0	20.2
48½	21½	Ind Control	21½	- 1		
22	15	Intelek	17	..	6.6	13.6
215	158½	Jesson	159½	+ 1	..	7.7
92	54½	LPA	66	..	4.5	21.2
1004½	445	Mitel	629	+ 16½		
180½	50½	Network Tech	52½	+ ½	3.1	5.9
372	210	Oxford Instr	217½	+ 8	4.7	9.6
111	23½	Pace Micro	67	+ 2½	0.7	
6271½	3458	Philips Lmp nv	3753½	+ 128½	1.3	16.6
98½	38½	Plasmon	67½	+ 1		
311½	184½	Pressac	216½	+ 4	2.5	18.1
60½	21½	Prestwick	23	..	6.0	6.5
725	284	Psion	469	+ ½	0.7	44.8
437	243½	Racal Elect	351	+ 9½	2.1	
97½	44½	Radamec	45	+ ½	8.6	8.9
585	335	Renishaw	359½	- 3	3.2	21.0
1½	0½	Rodime	1			
292½	177	Roxboro	181	+ 2½	5.0	9.4
361½	202½	SDX Bus Sys	325	..	1.0	32.0
377½	177½	Senomec	186½	+ 2½	6.4	9.2
59½	35½	Silverminest	39½	+ 1	4.7	7.6
5012½	4000	TDK	4350	+ 68½	0.6	
72½	49½	TEI	51	..	8.9	5.6
189½	88½	TLG	167	+ ½	2.8	30.1
62	7	Tadpole Tech	18			
67½	31½	Telemetrix	35	+ 1½	5.7	
365	150	Telspec	175	..	..	21.5
159½	109½	Thorpe FW	125½	+ 3	4.8	6.8
158½	67½	Total Systems	70	..	2.9	10.3
18	6½	Ultima Networks	7	+ ½		
111	62½	Verity	74	+ 2	0.2	
40½	16	Vagine Technology	24	+ 3	2.1	
668	460	Volex	565	..	5.0	14.0

ENGINEERING

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
312½	135	AIM	136½	..	4.1	
2125	1350	ALSTOM	1387½	+ 37½	..	15.1
44	19½	ASW	19½	- ½		
255	98½	Alumasc	108½	+ 3½	9.8	4.9
214	129½	Alvis	188	- ½	2.4	9.4
385	215	Ascot	237	+ 3½	6.0	8.6
178½	130½	Ash & Lacy	130½	..	7.4	8.2
125	43	Ayrshire Metal	43	..	5.8	4.1
535½	345½	BBA	348½	+ 2½	2.3	14.3
230½	127½	BTR	131	- 1½	7.3	8.6
97½	68½	BWI	77½	..	5.2	8.7
82½	61	Babcock	68	+ 1½	2.6	15.0
13	6½	Bailey (CH)	8	..	3.9	
110½	51½	Baynes (Charles)	53½	..	7.5	7.8
27½	2½	Beauford	5	+ ½	20.0	
261½	181½	Benstord	195	- 1	3.9	8.8
109	84	Bessls Cv Ua Ln	86½	..	6.0	
1285	845	Bodycote	985	+ 47½	1.3	20.5
54½	35½	Boulton Inds	47½	..	..	21.1
20½	12½	Bramall	13½	..	8.3	8.6
141	75½	Bridport	83½	+ 1	7.1	9.4
587	357	Br Aerospace	397½	+ 12	1.5	17.3
172	104	Br Steel	107	+ ½	11.7	9.1
159½	85½	Brooks Indl	135½	+ 2	4.8	7.2
16½	6	Brunel	6½	..	9.8	3.0
107½	89½	Bullough	93½	+ 1	7.8	8.7
38	17	Carbo	18	+ 1½	7.8	38.1
217½	87½	Carclo Engl	113	..	11.8	6.0
233½	172½	Castings	175½	..	4.1	9.8
272½	172½	Chamberlin Hill	172½	..	6.7	7.2
780	527½	Charter	531	+ 3½	5.9	17.3
175½	110½	Chemring	130	+ 8	2.9	
275	60	Clyde Blowers	61½	..	14.1	9.7
1247½	732½	Cobham	786	+ 1	2.1	20.8
430	220	Cohen (A)	227½			
157½	105½	Concentric	157½	..	5.9	28.8
279½	130	Cookson	133½	..	7.3	7.7
283½	151	David Brown	282½	+ 2½	4.1	15.2
511	382½	EIS	503	..	3.6	17.6
32½	16	Elmco	21½	..	..	8.7
50	25½	Energy Tech	31	+ ½	6.0	
161½	110½	Expamet	114	+ 3½	4.2	11.0
228½	121	FKI	122½	+ 1	6.1	7.6
216	120	Fenner	125	+ 1½	4.2	9.6
3	1½	Fenson	1½	..	..	11.7
40	20	Firth Hldgs	20	- ½	1.9	18.6
182	101½	Firth Rixson	101½	..	3.7	10.3
45½	10½	Flare	10½			
116	75	GEI Int	75½	+ ½	6.5	6.6
206½	148½	Garton Eng	155½	..	6.4	5.5
331½	173	Glynwed	193	+ 8	8.5	7.8
158½	92½	Hadan MacLn	92½	..	4.2	8.5
255	170	Hadleigh	182½	..	5.1	8.2
257	95	Hall Engl	100	..	10.4	4.3
149½	96½	Halma	105½	+ ½	3.3	12.8
83½	60½	Hampson Ind	60½	..	5.5	9.6
65½	22½	Hay (Norman)	46	..	2.7	13.1
69½	40½	Headway	52	..	3.8	7.0
71½	42½	Hill & Smith	45	..	11.7	11.1
532	277½	IMI	278½	+ 1	5.0	9.1
652	344	Johnson Matth	358	+ 12	5.9	7.8
28½	9½	Jones Stroud	9½	..	8.6	9.1
435	255	Kelsey Ind	255	..	14.2	4.1
418	299½	Laird	350	..	3.9	11.1
32½	22½	Locker	23	..	5.4	6.7
23½	16½	MS Intl	18½	..	5.1	6.7
508½	338½	Mang Bronze	338½	- 5	3.7	14.0
590½	327½	McKechnie	327½	+ 5	8.6	8.6
595½	103½	McLeod Russel	103½	- 6½	8.8	7.3
179½	154	Meggitt	156	+ 2	3.9	14.9
242½	82½	Metaltax	86	..	8.0	11.7
115	5½	MetalTech	6½			
14½	117½	Molins	140	..	14.0	
357½	271	Morgan Crte	284½	+ 13	6.8	8.1
581½	39½	Polyhadon	86	- ½	5.5	11.3
86½	45	Powerscreen	63½	- ½	20.7	1.6
608½	155½	Quadramatic	167½	..	7.8	8.8
280½	20½	Quadrant Gp	42½			
52½	20	Radiant Metal	55			
60	50	Renold	154½	+ 7½	5.8	6.0
290½	150½	Renold	40	..	14.6	4.3
40	35½	Richardson West	191½	+ 5½	4.1	15.2
309	180	Rolls-Royce	292½	- ½	4.2	18.0
387	269	Rotork	227½	..	4.0	13.2
246½	140	Rubicon	984½	+ 16½	4.3	6.0
1425	898½	SKF 'B'	137	- 2½	3.3	11.3
246	137	Senior Eng	255	+ 12½	5.6	6.8
615½	217½	Smith-Rwe	284½	+ 13½	1.7	15.5
295	190½	Siebert	97½	- 2½	7.1	7.2
148½	92	Six Hundred	705	+ 23	3.3	15.8
1020	615	Smiths Ind	8½	..	4.2	
18½	8	Solvera	411	..	4.5	18.7
706	408	Spirax-Sarco	255½	..	5.4	8.6
330	255	Sterling Ind				
650	364	TI	415	+ 25	4.0	13.2
121	78½	Tinsley (EY)	78½	+ ½	10.2	6.7
87½	57½	Transtec	61	+ 1	5.5	8.7
383	226½	TT Group	227½	..	4.8	8.7
425	302	Unit Elect	316	+ 1	3.0	14.6
76½	42½	Utd Inds	43½	..	7.5	8.3
252½	150	Vickers Grp	151½	+ 1½	5.9	8.4
11	7½	Viders Grp	8½			
767	525	Vitec	540	..	3.4	9.7
900	740	Vosper Thorny	752½	- 2½	4.8	11.1
402	282½	Wagon Inst	285	..	5.2	5.6
314½	173½	Weir	179½	+ 4½	6.5	8.8
185½	137½	Wellington Hdg	137½	..	7.5	9.3
89½	30½	Wescol	37½	..	5.3	8.3
930	750	Wolman	765	+ 2½	2.7	18.3
60	34½	Widney	35½	..	12.3	3.9

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
156½	87½	Adwest	98½	+ 2½	8.6	
223	125	Airflow Stream	125	..	8.0	12.4
701	480	Avon Rubber	487½	..	4.4	9.7
345	185	Bostrom	187½	+ 1½	4.9	6.7
193½	114½	Britax	131	+ 1	3.0	14.5
509	251½	Dennist	463	- 2½	2.8	19.7
413½	277½	First Tech	308½	- 1½	2.0	18.5
930	526½	GKN	658	+ 10	2.3	7.9
4671½	3375	General Mtr	3375	- 31½	3.6	
611	414½	Henlys	454	..	4.5	11.5
2403½	1991½	Honda Motor	2243	+ 116½	0.4	17.4
480	219	Laird	227½	+ 2½	6.4	5.9
286	191½	LucasVarity	208½	+ 3½	2.7	12.0
244½	157	Mayflower	162	..	2.3	14.4
136	95½	Syltone	107½	+ 1½	8.0	9.1
261	252½	T & N	259	..	4.4	15.0
31½	19½	Toad	20½			
51½	33½	Wilshaw	33½	..	3.7	8.7

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
670	455	AB Food	527	+ 4½	2.4	16.5
270	180	Acatos & Hutch	185	..	7.1	
37	11	Albert Fisher	11½	..	..	4.6
285	155	Banks (S G)	175	+ 1	8.2	8.2
513	378½	Barr (AG)	382	+ 1	5.5	7.4
45	34	Bessons Crspt	41	..	5.2	8.6
360	170	Booker	170	- 18	17.8	7.5
1077½	571½	Brake Bros	757½	+ 15	1.8	20.7
125	85	CPL Aromas	89½	..	6.8	7.5
995	600	Cadbury-Schw	853½	+ 34½	2.2	22.2
262	95	Cans Milling	95	..	15.1	4.7
345½	234½	Carswick	302½	..	4.8	12.3
371	253	Dairy Crest Group	273½	..	5.0	10.8
67	35	Daniels S	35½	+ ½	1.8	11.6
545½	251	Devro	251	- 1½	4.7	10.7
188½	126	Express Dairies	136½	+ 1	7.3	10.6
142½	85½	Finlay (James)	87	..	5.1	6.5
611	404	Geest	442	+ 25	2.8	17.8
15½	8½	Global	11½	..	7.6	14.7
380	222	Greencore	227	+ 5	3.9	12.5
240½	164½	Hazlewood Fds	178½	- 3	5.1	13.2
214½	139	Hillsdown	139	- 4	8.5	8.7
415	368	Linton Park	368	..	7.6	6.4
124	86	Matthews (B)	102½	..	5.2	15.7
30	13	Mil	13½	+ ½	2.7	6.1
227½	148½	Nichols (VT)	149½	- 7½	6.7	8.0
240	159½	Nth Foods	185½	+ 2	4.3	16.8
225½	133½	PIC Ind	132½	- 7		
148	89½	Paramount Foods	148	+ 2	4.4	17.8
57	38½	Pascoe's	50½			
160½	82½	Perkins Food	133	+ ½	3.5	13.8
88	55½	Pert & Een	56½	- 1½		
92	42	Serby Farm	52½	..	7.1	
39½	19½	Sims Food	32½	- 2½	..	6.6
583	415	Tate & Lyle	426	+ 2	4.8	9.6
167	108½	Tract	115½	+ 2½	6.7	8.8
738½	469½	Unigate	469½	- ½	5.9	10.1
741	345½	Dalgety	595	+ 20	1.8	29.8
5053½	3536	Unilever (NV)	4225	+ 175½	1.6	11.4
300	183	Utd Biscuits	206	- 2	6.6	14.2
62½	44½	WT Foods	51	..	3.7	17.0

HEALTHCARE

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
622½	318½	Arne LaChem	492½	+ 11	2.5	21.6
775	135	Assoc Nursg	157	..	3.2	14.8
1025	693	Bespak	935	..	1.9	23.4
525	61½	Biocompatibles	72½	- 2½		
245½	144	Care UK	175½	- 2	3.9	19.3
69½	23	Cerea	23	- 1		
560½	389½	Community H	435½		3.3	16.7
57	27½	CrestaCare	31½	..	4.5	14.9
18½	7½	[illegible]	7½	- ½	..	45.5
164½	122½	[illegible]	142½	+ 2	2.3	12.6
172½	127½	[illegible]	127½			
245½	141	[illegible]	227½	- 1	1.9	25.9
132½	75½	[illegible]	67½			
95	51	[illegible]	62½	- 3	2.2	45.6
593	495	[illegible]	520	- 10	1.7	
231½	150	[illegible]	186		1.7	28.9
360	198½	[illegible]	327½	+ 4	1.7	38.2
532	323	Nycomed Amsh	331	- 4	1.4	22.7
5½	5½	Pacher hedC	5½			
11	6½	Regina	6½	- ½		
835	501½	Seton Schol	735	- 24½	1.7	25.4
810	427½	Shield Diag	517½	+ 12½		
230	140	Smaller Med	145½	- 1	0.2	51.1
194	140	Smith & Neph	144½	..	4.4	14.3
2½	1½	Tenorest	1½		7.3	7.9
412½	273	West Kirkset	277	- ½	3.2	20.2

HOUSEHOLD GDS & TEXT

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
177½	117½	Airsprung	108½	...	7.8	6.2
220	165	Alba	176	...	4.8	9.1
85	53	Allsan	53	..	7.8	6.1
166½	115½	Alexanda	116½	...	7.5	9.3
187½	92½	Allied Textile	99½	- 1½	11.4	8.1
25½	13½	Amour	16	..	5.8	39.8
205	125	BLP Group	125		7.8	4.5
285½	166½	Baird (Wm)	167	- 18½	7.7	8.6
53½	39½	Beacon Stores	39½		2.4	..
149½	97½	Black Arrow	109½	+ 1½	5.7	..
421½	287½	Black (Peter)	288	- 3	3.1	...
97½	76	Brook Motsc	85	..	5.9	73.3
89½	13	Claremont Gar	19½	..	12.8	..
100	51	Coats Viyella	52	- ½	9.0	18.7
182½	105½	Cornwell Pdr Sp	107		3.9	8.6
368	160	Courtaulds Text	165	- 20	11.6	6.3
33½	22½	Creighton	23½			...
13½	4	Dalepak	4	..	8.4	...
68½	15	Dewson	16	..	27.9	2.3
167½	107½	Denby Group	107½		5.5	7.9
287½	105	Dewhirst	105½	- 24	6.5	6.3
27	11½	Desmond Group	12½	- ½	5.0	26.9
130	95½	Eclipse Blinds	95½	...	4.9	8.1
42	22	Ebief	22	...	7.1	...
131½	88	FII Group	74	+ 1	8.4	5.3
34	20	Faupel Trading	34	...	10.9	5.6
10½	1½	Foster (J)	9	+ 1	...	..
44½	24½	French	29		6.8	
502½	347½	Gaskell	428	+ 20	3.3	6.3
78½	39½	Haggas (J)	48		14.1	7.8
13½	8½	Hartstone Group	11	...	1.8	12.3
257½	97½	Hicking Pentecost	104½	+ 1	9.9	4.9
4	2½	Hollas Group	2½	...		..
18½	10½	Honeysuckle Grp	14		...	..
102	62½	Horace Small	80	- ½		...
485	250	IMP Intl	252½	...	2.5	11.3
25½	9½	Jacques Vert	13	...	...	...
52½	32½	Jerome Gp	32½	..	13.0	11.6
320	215	Jones Stroud	215	...	7.0	8.5
72½	42½	Jourdan (T)	47½	- 2	3.9	..
134	80	Kenwood App	125	...	...	16.8
250	300	Lambert Howarth	217½	- ½	5.2	7.8
152	85	Lamont Hldgs	85	- 5	18.8	6.0
123	45½	Leeds Group	46½	.	18.8	3.4
17	7	Leslie Wise	7½	..	16.1	
16	9½	Lochead	9½	...	5.3	7.6
90	55	Lyles (S)	56	..	5.6	5.7
210	159	McBride	165	- 3	5.4	12.0
138	60½	Mayborn	60½	-	16.5	4.3
650	425	Osborne & Little	440	..	6.5	8.2
4½	1½	PEX Group	2½	..	4.4	
126	23½	Parkland Group	27½	..	0.5	
475	400	Paterson Zoch	400	- 2½	5.5	8.9
425	370	Paterson Zoch 'A'	370	- 2½	5.9	8.2
129	78½	Pentland Group	79½	+ 1	5.8	11.3
220	179	Pifco	199	..	4.1	
203	174	Pifco 'A' Vtg	193½	..	4.3	..
60½	31½	Pinnacle	34	+ 1½	13.3	..
44½	35½	Readicut Intl	35½	..	9.0	..
1300	852	Reckitt Coln	919	- 21	2.7	17.8
620	438½	Relyon	480	+ 12½	4.1	13.9
36	15	Richards	17½	..	14.3	
227½	135½	Royal Doulton	138½	- 2½	9.2	14.7
32½	20½	SEET	24½			
45½	28	Sherwood Group	28½	- 1	15.8	7.6
118½	87½	Sirdar	100	..	5.3	12.8
295	215	Silentnight	215	..	6.7	8.8
70½	51½	Sirdar	53½	+ ½	13.0	6.8
53	31½	Stirling Group	31½	- ½	10.5	5.8
16½	3½	Stoddard Intl	6½	+ 1	7.2	
252½	93	Stoves	99	+ 2½	8.4	
278½	99½	Swallowfield	100½	..	8.8	5.9
208½	125	Tootlescot	126½	..	11.4	8.4
142	105	Usher (F)	107	..	12.9	5.5
89	60	Victoria	70	..	6.2	6.5
165	110	Vymura	120	..	5.7	8.7
75	40	Walter Greenbk	50½	- ½	9.2	8.0
105½	48½	Wilford Wgwd	51½	+ ½	2.8	14.4
100½	59½	Worrsam	83½	..	7.5	7.1
195	185	Wood (Arthur)	185	..	4.7	12.3
148	78	Yorklyde	91	+ 1	6.8	14.3

INSURANCE

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
4505½	3250	Am Gen	3721½	- 140½	2.4	
149½	100	Angerstein	136½	..	10.8	8.7
4550	2305½	Aon Corpn	3646½	- 25	1.8	
162	120½	Benfield & Rea	142½	- 1	5.7	15.5
65½	39½	Brandstock	48	+ 2½	12.5	
1384	1102½	Britannic	1219	+ 20	3.4	8.2
1300	787	CGU	945	+ 33	3.5	16.5
167	129	CLM Insce	147½	..	11.1	9.6
277½	209½	Charles Taylor	281½	..	2.9	22.9
525½	232½	Cox Insce	373½	- 11½	1.4	21.5
555	495	Dom & Gen	495	- 2½	2.6	14.2
159	105½	Euclidian	106½	..	17.6	3.2
491½	303	FBD TE	370½	+ 7½	2.5	14.1
455	240	GRE	265½	+ 10½	5.1	4.1
749½	441½	Heseman	579½	+ 5	2.3	11.3
261	165	Hiscox	204½	..	2.8	25.0
382½	229	Independent	271	+ 3½	1.6	7.1
615½	342½	Irish Life	386½	- 2½	3.4	11.6
202½	151½	Justice Lyd Tn	182½	+ 1	6.8	12.2
195½	107	Kiln Capital	145½	..	11.9	10.3
120½	99½	Lambert Fent	110	..	6.4	8.6
796	582	Legal & Genl	688½	+ 16½	2.4	19.8
2278½	709½	Liberty Life	816½	+ 29½	3.8	8.4
244	145	Limit	169	+ 1	4.6	4.2

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
678	450	3i	518	+ 15½	2.5	28.7
85	30	Aberdeen Emrg Ec	32½	+ 2	..	
137½	96½	Aberdeen High Inc	114	+ ½	8.4	16.9
133	67½	Abrdn New Dawn	74	+ 6	2.8	39.4
257	166	Aberdn Smlr	172½	+ 1	5.2	19.2
159½	88½	Aberdn Sm Wts	91½	+ 1½		
3090	2450	Alliance	2542½	+ 79½	3.1	38.9
747	584	Anglo & O'seas	612	+ 14	2.1	55.1
74½	49	Aust Oppst	52½	+ ½	3.8	...
67	45½	Baillie Gifford SN	50½	+ 2		
290	212	Bankers	222½	+ 4	2.7	36.3
118	59½	Baring Em Eu	62½	+ ½		
142½	108½	Br Assets	111½	+ 1½	5.6	20.5
122½	99½	Br Empire Sec	104½	+ 1½	1.3	56.6
61½	25½	Brazilian	27½		2.9	28.8
375½	278	Brunner	279½	+ 1	3.1	43.9
110	74½	Cairngorm Dem	79½	+ ½	1.4	
1000	737½	Candover	787½	+ 35	3.2	32.3
68½	33½	Central Euro Emth	34	+ ½		
547½	364	Chart European	432	+ 13	1.7	
198	164	City Merch HYt	170	+ 2½	7.2	13.9
281	210½	City Of Lon	224	+ 5½	3.7	
77½	69½	Danae Inv Inc	71		14.5	9.1
635	462½	Derby Cap	490	+ 5		
156	124½	Derby Inc	125½	+ ½	16.5	3.9
104	54½	Dresdner RCM Emg	57	+ 2½		
242½	159½	Dres RCM Smlr	162	+ 1½	2.0	61.4
220½	174½	Dunedin Inc Gt	184½	+ 4½	3.8	29.2
467	284½	Dunedin Smlr	293½	+ 3	4.5	24.9
80½	31	Edin Dragon	34½	+ 2½		
29½	13½	Edinburgh Inca	14½			
519	397½	Edinburgh IT	407	+ 8½	3.5	28.1
105	79	Edin Japan	85½	+ 4½		
560	424½	Edin US Trk	455½	+ 8	1.1	
673	527	Electra Inv	536	+ 4	2.4	37.8
189½	133	Eng & Scot	138½	+ 4½	3.4	29.8
605½	374	European Assel	481½	+ 15	1.0	
70½	31½	Fidity Asian Val	35½	+ 2½		
398	274½	Fidity Euro Val	285	+ 8	0.2	
32½	25	Fidity Jap Val	28½	+ 1		
177½	124½	Fidity Spec Val	128½	+ 3	1.3	64.2
281	215	Finsbury 'A'	216½		2.3	
223	157	Finsbury Grth	165		2.7	45.3
155½	77½	Five Arr Chile	78½	- 1	2.3	47.6
18½	0½	Five Arr Wts	1			
648½	510	Fleming Amer	521½	+ 7	0.5	
64	29½	Fleming Asian	33½	+ 2		
12½	5	Fleming Asian Wts	7½	+ 1		
64½	24	Fleming Chinese	28½	+ 1½		
27½	7½	Fleming Ch Wts	10½	+ 1½		
507½	401½	Fleming Claver	419	+ 5	2.0	58.1
707½	471	Fleming Contl	537½	+ 13	0.7	
134	61½	Fleming Em Mkts	64½	+ 2½		
392½	262½	Fleming Enep	268½	+ 3½	2.5	
411	307	Flem Gel Gth Ordt	324½	+ 3	1.1	
165	143½	Flem Gel Gth Pf	164½	+ ½	9.9	
132½	102½	Fleming Inc Cap	115½	- ½	7.8	17.6
114½	105½	Fleming Ing Incl	110½	+ ½	11.2	10.2
350½	246½	Fleming Ing Cap	271½	+ 5		
50½	30½	Fleming Indian	32½	+ 1½		
12½	4	Fleming In Wts	6½	+ 1		
167½	110	Fleming Japan	131½	+ 9½		
478	313½	Fleming Misc	320	+ 6	4.3	29.0
92	47	Fleming Nat Res	55½	+ 4	0.5	
433½	333½	Fleming Oseas	346	- 10	1.7	25.6
200½	120½	Fleming Smlr Co	127	+ 2	4.4	36.9
505½	265	Fleming US Discy	288½	+ 2	0.4	
210½	159½	Foreign & Colf	168½	+ 5	1.6	58.9
137½	97	F&C Inc Gwnt	101	+ 2	4.5	26.0
107½	34½	F&C Emg Mkts	36	+ 1½		
302½	185	F&C Enterprise	216	+ ½	2.3	46.7
577	361½	F&C Eurotst	440	+ 12	0.7	
131	85	F&C Pacific	94½	+ 5½	2.5	49.2
182½	144½	F&C PEP	157½	+ 2½	3.6	34.4
227	160½	F&C Smaller	164½	+ 2	2.3	42.3
179½	123	F&C US Smlr	128	+ 2½		
70½	60½	Framlin Inc	68	..	9.7	11.5
173½	109	Framlin Cap	118½	+ 4½		
295	107	Framl Dual Cp	121	+ 7		
63½	38½	Falcrum Cap	41	+ 1		
22½	9	Falcrum Incl	9½	..	105.4	0.9
197½	188	Falcrum Zero	197			
335	270½	Gartmore Bril	300	+ 5	3.5	32.4
369	242½	Gartmore Euro	289½	+ 7	0.6	
158	110	Gartmore Shdt	137	..	9.1	13.6
482½	282½	G'more Smlr Cos	295½	+ 6	2.5	43.6
88½	52½	Geared Inc Ord	62	..	9.0	11.0
62	51½	Geared Inc Inc	56½	..	9.8	10.0
108	101	Geared Inc 0 Pf	107			
103	31	Gov Asn Sm Cos	37½	+ 3	1.8	59.1
92½	38½	Gov Emg Mkt	43½	+ 2½	1.5	57.4
98½	77	Govett High Inct	81	+ 1½	8.6	
108½	55½	Govett Oriental	60½	+ 2½	1.4	49.0
489	346	Govett Strategic	354	+ 7	2.7	33.5
35½	19½	Gresham House	30½		1.5	2.3
147½	110½	GT Inc Growth	115	+ 1½	3.7	25.3
180½	120	GT Japan	141½	+ 7½		
156½	114½	Gam Fl Ex Inc	134½		7.7	
79	61	Henderson Am Cp	64½	+ 1		
122½	112	Henderson Am In	118½		8.2	13.0
48	29	Henderson Am Wt	34½	+ ½		
374	281½	Hend Elec Gent	293	+ 6½	1.7	60.4
132½	74½	Hend Far East	83½	+ 6½	10.2	11.9
580	452	Hend Gndrand	570		1.7	71.5
183	141	Hend High Inct	143½	+ 1½	5.9	19.6
42½	28½	Hend Jap Smlr	31½	+ 1½		
300	205½	Hend Smlr	211	+ 6	2.3	68.2
832½	470	Hend Strato	470½	- 3	0.1	
69½	38½	Hend TR Pac	41½	+ 2½	0.7	60.6
128½	88½	Hend Tech	100½	+ 4½		
203½	135½	Herald	145	+ 2	0.7	
133½	105	High Income T	112	+ 1½	7.6	14.1
174½	127½	H Govett Smlr	128½	+ 1	3.6	33.7
196½	121½	I&S UK Smlr	126½	+ 2	2.9	43.1
214½	162	Inv Capt	170	+ 3	4.4	25.7
97	30½	Intl Biotech	36	+ 2½		
20	1½	Intl Biotec Wts	1½			
59½	27	INVESCO Asia	30	+ 2½	2.7	26.3
217½	117	INVESCO Eng Int	128	+ 5½	1.4	40.3
36½	25½	INVESCO Jap Dis	28	+ 1½	...	...
49½	25½	INVESCO Korea	29½	+ 2	...	...
33½	20½	INVESCO Tokyo	23½	+ 1½	...	...
107½	83½	JF Fledg Jap	93	+ 3½	...	...
228	135	J Fry Euro U	187	+ 5	3.7	
155½	95½	J Fry UtilIt	122	+ 4½	5.7	14.6
32½	79½	J Fry Util Inc	87½		8.0	63.5
150	121½	Jupiter Ex Inc	128	+ 1	7.7	18.2
43½	19½	Jupiter Ex IncWt	24½	...		
165	91	Jupiter Gnd Capt	95½	+ ½	11.8	10.1
51½	41	Jupiter Gnd Pfd	44	+ ½	...	
160½	135½	Jupiter Ind Gnd	141½		3.6	
872½	518	Jupiter Prims	657½	+ 15	1.1	78.9
180½	164½	Kiwi Ind	175½			
201½	89	Korea—Euro	103½	+ ½	1.2	61.6
132	46½	Latin American	53½	+ 1		
1289	989	Law Debenture	1012½	+ 18	3.6	28.2
121½	111½	Lile Oil Opp	117	+ 1		
161½	104	Lloyds Sm Cap	108½	+ 2		
22	16	Lloyds Sm Div	18½	+ ½	29.0	4.3
178	123	Lloyds Sm Pkg	125	+ 2	4.3	
217½	173½	Lon St Lawrence	179½	+ 1	4.9	
429	309½	Lowland	332½	+ 6	4.4	28.5
812½	797½	M&G 2nd Dual Cp	800			
51½	50	M&G 2nd Dual Inc	50			1.6
101	75½	M&G Inc Geared	81½	+ 1½	9.3	14.6
78½	54	M&G Inc Inv Tst Cp	59½			
36½	20	M&G Inc Inv Tst Inc	22½	+ ½		3.7
183½	150½	M&G Inc Packaged	158½	+ 1½	4.8	
85	77½	M&G Inc Zero Div	81			
70½	31	M&G Rec Cap	33½	+ ½		
95½	53½	M&G Rec Geared	58½	+ 1½	12.7	
28	21	M&G Rec Incl	23½	+ ½		4.2
206	160	M&G Rec Packaged	169½	+ ½	4.4	
115½	108½	M&G Rec Zero Div	114½	+ ½		
243½	160½	M Currie Euro	184½	+ 4½	0.6	
84½	53½	M Currie Japan	61½	+ 3		
125½	73½	M Currie Pac	82½	+ 6	2.9	33.1
366½	292½	Majedie	310	+ 2	2.8	47.1
436½	332½	Merchants	367	+ 9½	5.3	24.7
180	126½	Mercury Euro Pv	131½	+ 3	2.5	31.4
98	50½	Mercury Eur Wt	58½	+ 2		
74½	40½	Mercury World	48½	+ 2½	2.1	53.3
833	677½	Monks Inv Tst	705	+ 14½	1.7	57.8
209½	158	Morg Grea Inc	168	+ 3½	5.2	23.5
106½	62½	Morg Wts	63			
82	35½	Morg Lain Amer	38½	+ ½	1.4	52.8
32½	9½	Morg Wts	10½	+ ½		
142½	95½	Murray Ent	97½	...	4.0	33.4
29½	6	Murray Ent Wts	7			
71	24½	Murray Emg Eco	28½	+ 1½	2.4	34.8
11½	2	Murray Em Ec Wt	3	+ ½		
538	400½	Murray Income	426	+ 10	4.3	30.1
505	379½	Murray Intl	389	+ 5	4.7	25.8
434½	275	Murray Smallt	280½	+ 5½	2.7	34.4
83	70½	Murray Ventures IT	72½			
294	271½	Natwest Ent	274½	+ 1½	2.8	35.5
5½	2½	Newmarket	2½			
56½	26	Pacific Assets	27½	+ 1½	1.8	58.6
140½	83	Perpetual Euro	101½	+ 3	0.6	
156½	115½	Perp Inc Gth	117½	+ 1½	4.3	
37	22½	Perpetual Jap	27½	+ 2½		
424½	280½	Perpl Uk Sm Co	285½	+ 3	3.1	36.4
£200½	£168	Personal Assets	£171		1.8	48.0
159	110	Prolific Inc	116	+ 4	4.6	24.9
380½	270	RIT Cap Ptnr	311	+ 10½	0.8	
558½	516½	Robeco	555½	+ 4½	2.0	61.4
565	524	Rolinco	583	+ 4½	0.8	
58½	25½	Schrd Asia Pac	31	+ 2½	2.0	
73	33½	Schrod Emg Col	36½	+ 2		
165½	126½	Schrod Inc Gwth	127	..	4.5	22.8
61½	41	Schrod Jap Gwth	45½	+ 2½		
282½	141½	Schrod Korea	164½	+ 4		
93½	38	Schrod Split Cap	48½	+ 2½		
135	114½	Schrod Split Incl	119	+ 1	9.0	14.2
160	154½	Schrod Split Zero	159½			
179½	125½	Schrod UK Gwth	130½	+ 1½	3.4	30.9
190½	149	Schrod Vent Inc	153	+ 2	1.4	
388	303½	Scot	320	+ 6½	2.3	50.9
233	183½	Scot Americant	194	+ 8½	3.5	33.8
144½	77½	Scot Asian	82½	+ 5		
140½	103½	Scot Eastern	108½	+ 2½	2.4	42.2
401	296	Scot Mige	307	+ 7	2.2	51.1
113½	100	Scot Natl Tstt	103	+ ½	12.0	10.8
153	116½	Scot Value	119	+ 2	2.1	24.9
2755	2147½	Second Aliace	2225	+ 55	3.0	41.6
133½	96½	Secs Tst of Scot	100½	+ 2	4.8	24.7
307	132½	Shires Smlrt	135½	+ 2	5.8	21.4
183½	125½	Smaller Cost	127½		3.2	45.6
390	319½	St Andrew Inst	330½	+ 1	3.8	31.4
619	484	Temple Bart	520	+ 12½	4.4	26.4
103½	69½	Throgmorton	72½	..	4.3	30.2
128½	58½	Tellios Emg Mkt	65	+ 3½	2.1	45.4
276½	167½	TR Euro Growth	203½	+ 5	0.6	
50½	34½	TR Pacific	36½	+ ½	3.9	27.0
412½	374	TR Tech Inv	400	..	11.9	32.0
621½	468½	Tribune	484½	+ 9	2.0	53.6
169½	124½	Undervalued Ast	128½	+ 1½	2.3	32.2
167	122½	Value Inc Tst	123½	+ 1	4.9	22.8
139	102½	Value Real	112½	+ 3	1.3	
55	39½	Warrants & Val	40½	+ ½		
110½	75½	Wigmore	77		1.1	
402½	310	Witan	321	+ 7	2.8	39.7
74½	60	Yeoman Inct	61			3.9

LEISURE & HOTELS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
29½	11	ABI Leis	13½	..	15.1	...
543½	332	Airtours	338	+ 2½	2.5	17.5
33	19½	Ald Leis	22½	+ 1½	5.7	7.1
27	12½	Arena Leis	13½	...	...	27.6
157½	110	BS Group	113	..	5.5	..
170	110	Baldwin	170	..	2.9	..
120	82	Bluebird Toys	114½	..	10.4	10.5
800	430	Boosey Hwks	475	+ 20	2.7	27.4
35½	27½	Borndene	29½	+ ½	9.6	7.1
158½	52½	Capital Corpn	55½	+ ½	11.5	4.8
104½	55	Cleveden	93½	..	2.7	31.3
109½	70½	Clubhaus	84½	+ 1	...	22.9
305	115	ENIC	128½	+ 9½	..	
318	205	Eurocamp	205	- 1	7.2	7.2
110½	87	Euro Disney	93½	...	..	..
145½	103½	Euro Leisure	103½	..	5.1	6.6
168½	98½	First Choice	108½	+ ½	3.4	15.3
437½	225½	First Leisure	225½	- 1½	5.2	11.8
159½	110½	Freddy Hotels	130	..	5.8	9.5
1217	700	Granada	837	+ 7	2.2	15.9
51½	32½	Hi-Tec Sports	33½	..	5.6	6.2
289	200½	Holmes Place	202½	+ ½	1.9	24.3
282½	165½	Hornby	209½	..	4.2	9.8
373	212½	Hozelock	231½	..	6.1	13.2
280	101	Jarvis Hotels	102	+ ½	5.5	6.1
569½	351½	Jarys Hotel	379	+ 3½	2.5	12.6
37½	24½	Kunick	25½	..	4.1	11.6
370	224	Ladbroke	236½	+ 11½	3.0	15.8
326½	127½	London Clubs	130½	..	6.6	8.6
243½	167½	Macdonald Hts	167½		3.7	11.4
220	123½	Man Utd	206½	+ 47½	1.0	33.1
59½	28	Mandarin Orntl	30½	+ 1½	6.9	6.8
620½	362½	Millennium & Copt	363½	- 1	3.1	13.1
1½	0½	Millwall Hldgs	0½			
102½	56½	Newcastle Utd	67½	+ 5	3.0	7.3
300	92	Northern	105½	+ ½	4.7	12.9
78½	44½	Prism Leisure	69½	+ 2	11.5	6.4
30	19½	Queensborough	33	...	2.2	8.9
43½	12½	Queens Moat	23½	..	..	5.1
421	250	Rank Grpt	278	+ 14	7.7	10.4
49	30	Regal Hotel	33	..	5.1	8.4
84½	50½	Ryan Hotels	54½	- ½	4.4	...
51½	19½	Sheffield United	21	+ ½		
252½	123½	Sinclair (Wm)	124½		9.1	6.0

MEDIA

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
445	277½	Abbott Mead	277½	- 1	2.9	21.3
178½	110½	Adscene	111½		10.0	9.5
112½	64½	Aegis Gp	82½	- 1	0.8	22.7
154	66½	Aspen Grp	71		4.4	
195	120½	Atlantic Telecom	121½			
255	185	Barbour Index	201	+ 1	6.5	22.5
3½	0½	Birkdale	1			
400	320	Black (A&C)	365	..	4.8	14.5
370½	267½	Border TV	333	..	2.9	26.6
515	419	Bristol	425	- 10	5.9	10.4
310½	129½	Brit Allcroft	227½		1.2	
594	333	BSkyB	476½	+ 14½	1.6	32.8
747½	497	Capital Radio	564		3.1	17.6
398	380	Carlton Comms	419½	+ 26½	3.8	12.5
437½	145	Character Grp	287½	+ 2½	2.1	12.0
63	48	Chime Comms	54		4.4	14.8
812½	602½	Chrysalis	692½	+ 2½	0.5	
92½	77	City of Lon	82½		9.3	12.2
130	83½	Copyright Proms	107½			
137	88	Cordiant Comms	110	+ 2½	1.1	18.5
231½	143½	Creative Pub	228½		4.1	18.1
3184½	2084½	Daily Mail	2425		1.2	23.1
3250	2000	Daily Mail 'A'	2300	+ 159½	1.3	21.9
243½	129½	Dialog	167	- 4		
267	149	Dorling Kind	161½	- 1	3.5	44.6
485	265½	Dudley Jenkins	347½		2.3	
1317½	878	EMAP	975	+ 45	1.9	21.7
685	4	EMIT	441½	+ 22½	3.6	22.4
1117½	736½	Elsevier	852½	+ 34	3.5	57.7
2412½	1495	Euromoney Pb	1800	+ 17½	3.7	18.1
69	50½	Fitch	58½	- ½	1.5	10.4
581	482	Fleetech	574	+ 10½		
245	155½	GWR Gp	218½		1.9	28.4
395	157½	Gearhouse Group	185		4.9	9.3
55½	33½	Goodhead	35½		1.8	11.7
560	290	HIT Enter	490		0.3	61.9
297½	222½	Hayes Pub	232½	+ 7½	6.5	
14½	9½	Highbury Hse	10			6.9
280	204	Hodder H'line	250	+ 10	3.8	14.1
537	365	IBC	405		3.4	13.3
93½	32½	ITE Group	39		1.4	4.7
30½	18½	Incepta	22½		2.0	9.8
397½	212½	Independent	217½	+ 2½	4.1	15.0
69½	40½	Intl Public Rel	57		2.7	51.5
162	107	Intereurope	108½		6.4	7.9
250	180½	Johnston Press	179½	+ 6½	2.2	12.6
366½	182½	LLP Group	182½		3.3	13.1
68½	30	Loper	43		2.8	8.2
472½	210	Maiden	267½	+ 2½	2.8	14.7
38½	10½	Mediakey	11			9.1
1425	940	Metal Bulletin	1215		2.4	29.7
249	162½	Mirror Gp	162½	- ½	3.8	12.0
501½	333	News Corp	378	+ 12½	0.3	18.1
446½	292½	News Corp Pref	335½	+ 14½	0.8	
337½	222½	Newsquest	224		3.0	10.8
15½	11½	Osprey Comms	13			
1200	705	Pearson	981	+ 36	2.5	25.1
56½	29½	Pineolink	36½	+ 1½		
1225	867½	Portsmth Sund	1110	+ 2½	2.0	17.3
115½	51½	Quarto	81		7.1	5.6
730	430	Reed Intl	501½	+ 7½	3.7	55.5
770	468	Reuters	522	+ 35	3.2	18.7
185	100½	Saatchi	105	+ 2½	1.4	13.3
830	604½	Scot Med	619	+ 7½	4.5	13.7
577	375	Scot Radio	510	- 3½	2.5	18.6
21	6½	Sleepy Kids	18			
550	307½	Southnews	320	+ 4	3.7	10.9
25½	12½	Sterling Pub	15½		2.7	6.2
79½	42½	Tarsus	42½			
145½	85½	Taylor Nelson	110½	+ 4½	1.1	34.4
270	170	Television Cp	180		2.5	13.4
269½	163½	Tempus Gp	229½	- 2½	1.5	24.8
1920	1319½	Thomson Corp	1387	+ 29½	3.4	29.1
573	439½	Trinity	439½	- 1½	3.8	14.0
245	170	Ulster TV	172½		4.1	16.0
953	610	United News	626½	+ 6½	3.8	13.7
115½	47½	VCI	49½		19.9	3.7
127½	75½	VTR	89½		6.6	6.4
488	240	WPP	332	+ 2	0.7	19.5
205	123½	Wilmington	160½	+ ½	1.1	28.8

MINING

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3440½	2275	Ang Am Coal	2412½	+ 40½	5.6	7.8
3563½	1465½	Ang Am	1762½	+ 112½	4.2	8.5
3268½	1931½	Ang Am Gold	2071½	+ 180½	5.5	18.1
971½	634½	Anglo Am Platt	896½	+ 53½	3.3	
3362½	2040½	Anglogold	2453½	+ 303½	6.5	15.5
32½	13½	Anglo Pac Grp	14			25.4
31½	16½	Arcon Intl	16½			
645½	358½	Ashanti	397	+ 31	3.0	13.2
66½	21½	Ashton	31½	- 1½	4.5	
112	22½	Avocet	24½	+ 1		
157½	98½	Billiton	126½	+ 4½	5.1	
35	28½	Beach	29½		3.8	9.9
30½	12	Bougainville	12½			
299½	134½	Central Pacific	134½	- 5½		
50	21½	Cons Murchison	25½	+ ½		8.7
1803½	707½	De Beers	784½	+ 34½	6.0	5.6
426½	199	Driefontein	284½	+ 23	3.1	
235½	88	Durban	145	+ 15½		
18½	10½	E Rand Prop	13½	+ ½		23.2
273½	144½	Eng China Cl	146½		11.1	6.6
168½	92	Feander	121½	+ 1½	10.4	
385½	92	FS Cons	262½	+ 18	11.7	8.6
71½	17	FS Dev	20½	+ 1		
1103½	512½	GFSA	671½	+ 62½	3.3	16.7
148½	85½	Gencor	97½	+ 3½	5.2	
41	14½	Greenwich R 'A'	18	+ 1½		
356½	112½	Harmony	276½	+ 35		8.7
793½	443½	Impala Platt	731½	+ 71½	4.7	10.2
13½	8½	Kenmare Res	9	+ ½		
93½	14	Kidston	17½			
369	220	Lonrho	252½	+ 13½	8.3	10.0
11½	4	Meekatarra	5			
33½	24½	MIM	28½	+ 1½	3.1	
1175	516½	Minorco	671½	+ 9½	5.8	8.2
137	65	Montague	125		3.8	
73½	34½	Normandy	40½	+ 3½	5.2	9.6
177½	105½	North	118	+ 2½	3.9	19.7
60	15½	Pealing Tin	17½		2.7	
111	48½	RBC	84½	+ 4	4.2	4.9
170	80	RJB	107½	+ 5½	23.3	1.4
29½	15½	Rackwood	15½		26.6	3.3
196½	77½	Randfontein	146	+ 9½	3.3	18.8
121½	34½	Reunion Mng	42½	+ 7½		
898	535	Rio Tinto	632½	+ 25½	5.0	11.9
871	574½	Rio Tnto Ltd	651½	+ 30½	3.8	17.5
8½	2½	St Barbara	2½			
191	120½	St Helena	175½	+ 26½	15.0	3.0
192½	135	Sons Gwalia	157	+ 7½	5.8	12.3
130½	55½	Stream Pacific	58½	+ 1½		
228½	150½	WMC	177½	+ 13½	2.4	24.6
27	8½	Wankie Col Z	8½		5.3	9.1
67½	20½	Water Hall	28½			30.5
443	372	Watts Blake	372½		5.9	11.1
149	83	Zambia Copper	87½	+ 1	..	

OIL & GAS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
221½	155½	Abbot Group	158½	- ½	2.2	18.3
32½	19½	Alliance Res	32½			
64½	30½	Amlost	30½			
77	40½	Aus Oil & Gas	47½	+ 2½	3.0	16.9
27½	5½	Arrow Pet	6			
430	212½	Br Borneo	252½	+ 12½	1.4	45.3
399	265	BG	358	+ 1	2.8	34.0
972	708½	Br Petroleum	807	+ 40	3.6	21.7
10	0½	Bula Resources	1			
1340	895	Burmah Castrl	930	+ 4	3.0	13.8
486½	103½	Cairn Energy	128½	+ 14½		52.9
119	80½	Centrica	94½	+ 2½		
14½	3½	Copley Res	4	+ ½		
22½	8	Dana Pet	8½	- ½		
72½	17½	Dragon Oil	19			88.5
28½	15½	Edin Oil & Gs	15½		2.4	
10	5½	Emerald Energy	6½	- ½		
697	317	Enterprise	350	- ½	5.8	69.7
14½	6½	Fortune	6½			24.9
294½	162½	Hardy Oil	171	+ 7½	0.7	36.0
47½	21½	JKX Oil & Gas	21½			
430	155	KBC Adv Tech	191	+ 1½	2.6	17.2
305	145	LASMO	155	- 3	7.5	
42½	27½	Lasmo Units	30	- 1	30.6	
83	33½	Monument	35½	+ 1		14.3
3118½	2084½	Norsk Hydro	2368½	+ 178½	2.5	14.4
133½	69	Oil Search	77½	+ 1½		
58	18½	Paladin Res	21½			
58½	24½	Petroz	24½			
54½	24½	Premier	27½	+ 1	2.8	5.8
449	314	Ranger	362½	+ 3½	5.3	6.5
3616½	2596½	Royal Dtch Fl	2943½	+ 87½	3.3	21.6

OTHER FINANCIAL

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
80½	41½	Southampton	49½	+ 5½	2.5	
143½	91	Stakis	93	..	3.6	12.3
343	250½	Stanley Leisure	305	..	1.9	20.5
10	4	Tandem	6½	+ ½		
346	345	Tanjong	346	..	1.4	23.4
250½	150	Thistle Hotels	154½	- ½	3.4	12.8
200	127½	Thomson Travel	143½	+ 5	2.4	17.5
78½	59	Tottenham Hot	64	+ 3½	2.0	17.0
212½	132½	Vardon	142½	+ 7½	2.2	18.3
412½	302½	Wembley	327½	+ 2½	1.5	8.5
162½	116½	Zetters Gp	123½	..	11.7	6.5
5143½	2685½	Schlumberger	2996½	+ 171½	1.5	..
499½	312	Shell	365½	+ 4½	3.9	20.6
370½	46½	SOCO Intl	76½	+ 8½		8.2
8187½	5646½	Total	6506½	- 59½	2.1	
332½	167½	XCL	167½	...	...	..
134	87½	Aberdeen Asset	93½	..	5.3	35.3
775	417	AMVESCAP	470	+ 30	1.5	25.5
256	120½	BMD	172½		6.4	10.4
55½	42½	Barry Bch Nbl	42½		5.9	
294	170	Biotech Inv	185	+ 5		
470	245½	Brewin Dolphin	354	+ 1½	3.5	13.0
975	725	Caledonia	756	+ 4½	3.4	22.4
4500	2800	Camellia	3800		1.2	8.7
693	398½	Cattles	561	+ 8½	2.3	26.4
57½	37½	Chestlet	42½		4.4	9.1
933	528½	Close Bros	593½		2.7	17.2
612	430	EFM	430	- 2½	7.3	10.3
32½	20	Exco	23		4.1	
42½	19½	Fishers Intl	36½		2.2	20.4
218½	144½	Friends Ivory Sime	144½	- 1½	6.3	12.8
466½	282	Gerrard	297½		7.1	8.9
194	154½	Hambros	182½		1.7	66.3
272½	148½	Hitachi Cred	235½	..	2.9	19.3
225	145	Investment Co.	220		2.6	13.4
177½	58½	Jardine Strat	64	+ 4½	13.6	4.9
164½	111½	Johnson Fry	113½		4.4	
845	570	Leopold Jt	620		4.1	23.9
619½	443½	Liberty Intl	444½	+ 1	5.2	18.4
476½	100	Lon Forfaiting	116	+ 3½	13.3	3.9
260½	169½	London Pacific	171	- ½	10.2	6.2
180	103	Lon Scot Bk	106½		4.1	18.1
373	232½	Man ED & F	344½	+ 21	4.2	13.6
1945	1352½	M & G	1385	+ 15	3.8	20.7
253	152½	Paragon	165½	+ ½	2.1	6.6
4537½	2682½	Perpetual	3250	+ 32½	2.7	19.9
1096	785	Provident	910	+ 10	2.9	24.4
647½	400	Rathbone Brs	472½	+ 10	3.7	18.9
69½	49½	Rea Brothers	51½		2.5	9.2
65	47½	Retland 1st	47½		4.5	10.8
107½	54½	SEC Group	54½	- 2	11.7	14.1
392	261½	S & U	277	+ 2	8.6	8.2
2025	1153½	Schroders	1250	- 40	1.5	21.5
1775	850	Schroders N/V	1053	+ 16	1.8	18.1
735	605	Secure Tst Banking	612½		4.7	12.4
185½	114	Singer & Fried	114½	- ½	6.2	7.5
67½	47½	Towry Law	48½			
5½	3½	Trio Hldgs	4½			
81½	57	Union	66½			
91	45½	Versailles Grp	66½	...	0.8	32.4
482½	354½	Winthrust	392½	..	4.8	14.7

PHARMACEUTICALS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
150	27	Brit Biotech	38	- ½	...	..
300	225	Cantab Pharms	227½			
387½	197½	Celltech	292½	+ 15		
356½	195	Chiroscience	212½	+ 11½	..	
201	63½	Core Group	65			
205	40	Cortecs	58½	+ 3		
2000	1650	Glaxo Wellt	1840	+ 26	1.9	51.1
240	182½	Goldshield	215	+ 3	0.7	19.1
135	54½	ML Laboratories	63½	+ 2		
185	94	Medeval	94½	- ½	5.9	4.7
260	101	Oxford Molecular	106½	- 3½		
310	82	Peptide Thera	95	+ 5		
151½	47½	Phytopharm	126½	+ 1½		
513½	194½	Powderject	400	+ 1	...	
88½	31	Proteus Intl	33½	+ 1		
72	50	Ransom (Wm)	51½	+ 1	6.5	10.1
181½	94½	Quadrant Health	95½			
394½	197½	Scotia	197½	- 3½	..	
549	285½	Shire Pharms	371	+ 1		
103½	47½	SkyePharma	54	- ½		
888	604	SmithKline	762	+ 57	1.5	36.6
223	59	Therp And Inc	86½			
652½	185	Vanguard	360	+ 48½		
182	10	Vanguard Wts	35	+ 6½		
245	55	Xenova	62½	+ 5		
2850	2080	Zeneca	2314	+ 122	2.1	29.9

PRINTING & PAPER

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
136	82	AG Holdings	136	...	5.7	20.1
645	400	API	402½		3.9	10.9
142	68½	App Holo	89½	- ½		42.2
255	123½	Arjo Wiggins	125	+ 1½	6.6	6.4
468½	342½	Bemrose	343		5.9	8.1
3571½	2184½	Bowater Inc	2184½	- 28½		
313½	151½	Bowmers Ind	152½		2.7	9.4
527	317½	Br Polythene	318		7.9	7.7
348½	219½	Bunzl	237	+ 7½	3.0	12.8
168½	71½	Capital Inds	80	+ 1½	9.5	8.2
261½	196½	Cropper (James)	196½		3.2	11.0
399	208½	De La Rue	210		6.6	8.1
274½	201½	Dolphin Pack	202½		5.1	9.5
105	42½	Ferguson Intl	45		12.5	
197½	134½	Filofax	136	..	3.8	14.2
90½	44½	Inveresk	46½		16.2	25.1
229½	135½	James Porter	137		7.1	6.9
21	16½	LIBERfabricat	16½		4.5	6.7
420	209	Low & Bonar	211	+ 1½	8.0	6.9
25½	5½	Lowe (Robert)	6½		8.5	2.4
93½	62½	MY Holdings	63½		5.4	8.5
177½	79½	Macfarlane	79½	- ½	7.3	7.9
347½	182	Photobition	222	+ 13	0.7	
187½	140½	Plysu	156		6.7	10.7
34	19½	Porter Chadbn	21		5.4	6.3
320½	190½	REXAM	197½	- 8½	7.1	8.3
193½	154½	RPC	160		3.6	11.7
547½	362½	St Ives Gp	362½	- 1	4.1	10.8
410	183	Sacca	136½	+ 8½	3.5	
58½	16½	Sargasso	17½	+ ½		
32½	20½	Secure & Geaca	35	+ 5	3.6	3.9
247½	121½	Smith David	122½	+ ½	8.3	16.3
240	88½	Smurfit (Jeff)	88½	- 2	5.1	
165	92	Sonoc	93½		4.4	12.0
215½	133½	Tomkins Rober	213½		1.9	18.3
43½	16	Waco	17			
307½	225½	Waddington	227½	- 2½	6.3	9.3
320½	220	Wyndeham	225½		3.4	12.0

PROPERTY

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
116½	59	Allied Lon	71	+ 1	7.1	5.1
195	127	Asda	129	+ 1	3.0	14.2
36½	26½	Ashgrove Grp	28½		0.9	47.7
189½	125½	Asheme Hldgs	126½	- 3	4.9	19.5
278½	167½	Benchmark	168½		1.2	16.3
288½	186½	Billton	209½	+ 2	6.6	15.3
208½	149	Brixton	172½	+ ½	6.5	10.3
5½	1½	Bolton Gp	2½			
64	42½	Bourne Endt	43		3.5	46.5
322½	212½	Bradford	215	+ 1	5.3	14.5
657½	487½	Br Landt	555½	+ 22	2.1	30.6
255	169½	Brdent	172½	+ 1	6.3	12.7
122	87½	Burford	95	+ 1	3.2	29.5
114½	108	CLS Hldgs	109½		6.6	13.1
318½	197½	Cap & Regal	302½	- 1½	2.2	19.7
451	337½	Cap Shop Ctrt	349½	+ 1½	3.5	21.5
355½	267½	Cardiff Prop	271½		1.5	38.3
19	9½	Carlisle	11½	- ½		77.4
13½	6½	Cattow Intl	7			
418½	232½	Chelsfield	260	+ 8	1.6	30.5
687½	510	Chesterfield	511		3.3	27.2
37	15½	Chesterton Int	16½	+ ½		
166½	101½	City Nom	103½		2.7	26.0
53½	22½	City Site Ests	22½			
107	73	Cleveland Tst	74		10.5	13.7
98½	78½	CNC Props	80		5.2	8.3
264½	185½	Compco	198½		2.8	16.3
1710	1390	Daejan	1390		3.8	13.0
21	8½	Daris Estates	8½			
126½	79	Debenhm Twsnt	81½		5.4	8.1
183½	69½	Delancey Ests	98	+ 2½	2.0	
232½	192½	Dencora	211		2.9	13.1
598	405	Derwent Hldgs	406		2.1	28.1
355	252½	Development Sec	254		1.5	5.7
430	410	Estates Agency	425		5.4	19.3
91½	55	Estates Gen	64½	+ 2½	2.0	18.1
176½	99	Evans Of Leeds	103½	+ 1	4.5	14.0
46½	38½	Fletcher Kingt	41	- ½	7.9	12.1
71½	61½	Folkes Group	63½		4.1	6.2
71½	57½	Folkes Group nv	61		4.3	5.9
540	379½	Frogmore	384	...	6.6	10.0
19	9	Golden Land Inv	9			
370	286½	Grainger	290		3.3	13.9
296	204	Gr Portland	206½	+ 1½	5.4	20.7
209½	120	Greatchester	130½	+ 4½	1.3	38.1
252½	171½	Greycoat	178	+ 3½	1.1	28.6
152	81½	Hambro Cntywt	92½	+ 1½	4.1	9.4
537½	384	Hammerson	408½	+ 1	3.5	21.8
33½	18½	Hampton Trust	19			
692½	505	Helical Bar	520	+ 5	2.2	10.2
50	38½	Hemingway	39½		2.6	25.7
130½	48	HK Land	51½		14.0	5.5
352	200	Jermyn	240		3.1	59.8
183½	94	LSH	135		4.2	8.7
113½	84½	Lands Imp	94½		6.3	
1190	800	Land Sec	897½	- 1½	3.9	24.2
38½	27	Lon & Assoc	27		4.2	11.3
141½	108½	Lon Merch Sec	110½		6.0	14.8
650	439	MEPC	480	- 6	4.6	16.3
119½	87	MWB Group	87		5.4	
152	125	McKay Secst	126½	...	4.8	16.2
97½	62½	Mckinnon Mre	62½		4.5	5.6
368	246½	Milner Estt	252	- 4	2.6	
247½	161½	Minerva	161½		1.3	
38½	25	Moorfields Est	27		2.5	30.4
1900	1681½	Mountview	1825		3.3	10.7
169	128	Mucklow (A&J)	133		6.7	14.8
49	31	OEM	32			63.2
74½	44	ORB	45			19.6
727½	570	Peel	617½	..	1.7	
353	270½	Pillar Prop	273	+ 1½	2.7	51.1
13½	5½	Probus Estates	6½			
204½	144½	Quintain	145½	- 1	3.4	21.7
29½	22	Raglan	23½	+ 1	6.9	10.3
36	22	Regalian	24½		5.4	11.4
202½	134½	Rugby Est	135½		3.4	12.2
81½	61	St Modwen Prp	62½	+ ½	6.2	7.5
73	52½	Savills Grant	58	+ 1½	6.8	17.2
149	94	Savillst	101	+ 1	5.9	6.1
113	80½	Scott Mel	81½		4.8	14.5
246	164	Shaftesbury	164½	- ½	1.8	38.5
414½	297½	Slough Estates	312½	+ 2	3.3	19.8
287½	237½	Smart (J)	247½		5.0	9.2
190½	87	TBH	94½	+ 4½	2.3	22.6
203½	138½	Tops Estst	140		2.1	24.1
118	72½	Town Centre	77½		6.3	9.7
203½	146½	Trafford Park	173½		2.9	18.9
105½	73½	UK Land	76½		5.8	6.0
278½	221½	Warnert	223½	+ 1	7.3	14.8
263	235	Warnfordt	237½	+ 2½	4.1	14.7
118½	71½	Wates	72	- ½		33.2
453½	345½	Workspace Grp	408½	+ 1	5.2	14.7

RETAILERS, FOOD

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
227½	157	ASDA Groupt	186		2.4	17.9
81	56	Budgens	75½	- 1	2.7	13.8
80½	54½	Dairy Farm Intl	61	+ 3½	5.9	11.3
212½	157	Farepak	175	- 1	4.3	11.5
43½	35½	Fitzwilton	41½		5.9	
184	95	Fyffes	114	+ ½	2.3	13.3
2767½	1995	Greggs	2597½		1.9	20.7
261	119	Iceland Group	187	- 4½	3.6	12.6
301½	227½	Morrison (W)	287½	+ 3½	0.9	32.6
69	38	Park Foods	51½		7.2	18.6
407½	295	Safeway	331	+ 7½	5.3	13.9
588½	370	Sainsbury J	542½	+ 14½	3.2	22.6
484	207½	Somerfield	432½	+ 12	3.3	13.8
338	194½	T & S Stores	297½		3.6	15.9
208	152	Tesco	170	+ 2½	2.8	19.7
293½	157½	Thorntons	187	- ½	4.5	13.2
626	480	Watson& Philip	481½	- 6	5.0	13.0

RETAILERS, GENERAL

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
303½	175½	Alexon	197	+ 9½		10.6
266	120½	Allders	121½		8.6	5.0
180	44	Allen Carpets	48½	+ ½	22.3	..
508	309	Arcadia Group	308½	- 8	4.2	11.0
41½	19½	Ashley (Laura)	21			
216½	115½	Austin Reed	127	+ 3½	7.4	7.5
172½	137½	Beales	137½		4.5	8.9
193½	142½	Beattie (J)	145	+ 1½	8.4	9.5
155½	68½	Bentalls	88½	+ 9	5.4	4.5
498½	174½	Blacks Leist	207	+ 23½	3.3	7.4
146	103½	Body Shop	104½	- 3½	6.7	8.8
1095	602	Boots	980	- 20	2.8	22.8
84½	30½	Brown & Jackson	60			11.1
460	275	Brown (N)	276	+ 1	3.4	14.3
505	223½	Carpetright	234½		11.7	9.1
400	227	Christies Int	395		1.7	30.7
432½	270	Church	301½	+ 12½	7.3	8.1
147½	95½	Clinton Cards	122½	+ 4	3.1	12.8
272½	151½	Country Gdnst	180	+ ½	1.4	15.4
432½	247½	Courts Furnisht	252½	+ 2½	2.1	9.4
587½	192½	DFS Furnure	208		8.0	8.3
433	301½	Debenhams	349½	+ 7	1.4	15.1
638	459	Dixons Grpt	560	+ 1	2.8	15.6
99½	45½	Elec Boutique	65	- ½		20.3
8½	3	ERA Gp	5			
70½	14	Essex Furn	17	+ ½	28.3	3.9
209	119	Faldand Ists	119	- 4½		13.0
218½	148½	Fine Art Dev	148½	- 1	8.3	11.6
356½	203½	Fred Earth	341		1.3	21.1
592½	129	Flying Flwr Uts	146	- 7½	6.4	8.2
137½	87	Forminster	88		4.8	7.4
465	317½	French Conn	317½	- 2½	1.3	11.2
45½	34½	Gloves	38½	+ 1	3.9	22.7
333½	207½	Goldsmiths Gp	210		4.8	10.3
147	90½	Grampian Hdg	97½		9.2	9.4
918	670	GUS	745	+ 3½	3.4	17.1
297½	139½	Hamleys	140	- 1	8.8	6.3
116½	52½	Hampden Grp	54½	- 3	6.7	7.5
343½	141½	Harveys Furnt	141½	- 1	8.0	8.3
221½	96½	Hse of Fraser	100½	- ½	6.8	11.1
171½	117½	Hughes (TJ)	135		3.2	13.0
820½	283½	JJB Sports	375	+ 2½	2.2	14.6
800½	354½	Kingfisher	511½	+ 6½	2.8	18.6
395	170	Liberty	205		0.5	
54½	25½	Limelight	36	+ 1		
141	39	MFI	43½	+ 2	15.2	5.9
654	465	Marks Spencer	519½	- 8½	3.4	17.8
57	29½	Merchant Retail	33½	- ½	1.9	14.2
291½	161	Moss Bros	161½		4.6	10.3
169	111½	New Look	115½	- ½	5.4	9.4
860	410	Next	468	+ 25	4.8	12.3
31	20½	Oliver (G)	20½			
512½	150	Orliflame Intl	150	- 4	11.3	5.9
85	24½	Partners	24½		7.7	
95½	74½	Partridge Fine	75	+ ½	8.7	5.9
29½	18	QS Grp	19½			
320	153	Rosebys	157½		9.6	6.3
140½	79½	Save Group	85½		10.9	8.9
390½	178	Sears	180	+ 2	12.8	10.4
252½	202½	Selfridges	225½	+ 1	2.5	
52½	29	Signal Group	32½	+ ½	..	7.2
587½	389½	Smith WH	485	+ 3	4.3	15.4
1430	1050	Sotheby's	1112½		2.2	
294	215	Storehouse	218		5.2	10.2
174½	125	Style Hldgs	136	- ½	0.8	
92	35	Stylo	37½	- ½	15.5	
250	140½	Thorn	246		1.9	15.4
127½	25½	Tie Rack	31½		7.9	4.9
3½	2	Upton & South	2½			21.8
355½	209½	Wickes	251½	+ 9½	2.0	13.1
373½	236½	Wyevale	259½		3.6	15.6

SUPPORT SERVICES

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1030	535	AEA Techt	757½	+ 2½	1.6	33.6
350	202½	Abacus Recruit	222½	+ 3½	0.8	
205½	85½	Acorn	86½			
226½	152½	Aggreko	155		2.0	30.0
122	48	Alpha Airpts	49½	+ ½	13.5	5.0
53½	32½	Alphameric	43	- ½		
79	43	Anite Grp	47½	+ 3	0.7	44.0
669½	362½	Atkins WS	625	+ ½	1.6	30.8
214½	120½	BNB Res	121½		7.8	7.3
790	485	BPP	515	+ 2½	4.1	17.0
498	294	BTG	332½	+ 2½	0.2	
135½	109½	Baldwin Ind	117½		3.6	6.6
169½	92½	Brandon Hire	92½		4.6	18.9
48½	17½	Br Thornton	26			
132½	79½	Brooks Service	87½		5.7	9.4
957½	568½	Business Post	712½	+ 2½	2.5	28.1
2287½	758½	CMG	1925	+ 65	0.3	79.2
972½	802½	Capita Gp	830		2.2	14.0
59½	40	Calderburn	45½		4.2	6.6
626	311½	Capita Group	511½	+ 16	0.6	69.2
12½	6½	Chesnov	7½		3.3	12.3
822½	495	Computacenter	525	+ 3½	0.8	22.6
252	159	Corp Services	159½		5.0	10.8
37½	21½	Coutts Cnsltg	29		1.5	
649	317½	DCS Gp	504	+ 18½	0.6	28.3
352½	95	Danka Bs Sys	100½	- 1	3.9	18.1
459½	302	Davis Service	312½	+ 1½	4.5	17.1
630	280	Delphi	303½	+ 21	3.1	17.9
1250	682½	Diagonal	822½		0.5	44.9
27½	17½	Eurocopy	18½		12.5	4.0
102½	51	El Data Prc	75		3.7	13.1
1975	927½	FI Group	1667½	+ 117½	0.6	71.2
578	385	Guardian IT	385	- 3	0.2	54.7
147	95½	HW Group	96½		2.8	6.7
455	300	Harvey Nash	306		1.9	23.0
1155	751	Hays	800	+ 36	1.5	27.8
58	37½	High-PointRadt	38½			
325½	218½	Hogg Robinson	233½	+ 1	5.9	15.6
275½	195½	Hunting	195½		5.1	10.5
1257½	405	JBA Hldgs	405	- 7½	1.6	
330	232½	Johnston Sncet	259		6.2	9.0
69½	39½	Katamazoo	45	- 1½		
1190	570	Kewill Syst	952½		1.4	26.7
24½	13½	Lyon-Scan	18			
561	317½	Lavendon	376½		1.4	22.8
2312½	1147½	Logica	1620	- 40	0.8	45.5
806½	267½	Lonert	334	- 1	2.8	16.2
260½	120½	Lynx Group	170	- 1½	1.5	27.7
96½	42½	MDIS	65			
1422½	772½	MAIT Comp	822½	+ 5	1.9	21.7
164½	109½	MR Group	125	- 6½	4.0	16.5
555	320	Macro 4	420	- 7½	8.1	
342½	142½	Marlborough Int	222½			42.3
94½	52½	Menmore Abbey	78½		1.7	15.2
721	312½	Micro Focus	315	+ 52½		
157½	55	Microgen	30½		6.3	
3722	1825	Misys	2416	+ 16	0.7	33.3
338	212½	MITIE Grp	223½			
446	191½	Natl Airpt	235			
53½	51½	Nasa Group	53½			
65	41	Ocean	41½			
962½	635	Pandy	924	- 61		
320	240	Pegasus	250			
220	145	Penna	156½			
434	151	Photo-Me	376	- 2		
54½	30½	Pro Stor	35½			
247½	160	PGO	192½		9.7	5.5
345	218½	RPS Group	232½	+ 4	2.1	25.7
62½	25½	Racal	27½			
600	317½	Rank Timet	385	+ 3½	1.4	14.5
751½	79	Rebus	109	+ 9½	2.4	19.5
193	105	Reed Executive	106½		5.7	
207½	150	Reliance Sect	150	+ ½	0.0	15.4
473	265	Rentokil II	347	- 9	1.5	31.5
231½	152½	Ricardo Group	179½		4.5	12.6
576	269½	Robert Walters	290		1.9	11.7
510	235	Rolfe & Nolan	245	+ 5	3.9	
397½	280	Royalblue	302½		1.0	35.7
1905	825	Sage Gp	1267½	+ 42½	0.3	50.0
160	74	Sanderson	126	+ 5	5.1	11.7
1069	551	Select App	690		0.4	24.5
849	368½	Serna Gp	600	+ 17	0.4	61.3
1447½	868	Serco Gp	1151	- 21½	0.7	43.1
280½	154½	Shanks & McEwan	189½		2.8	21.1
1067½	520	Shared Intl	795	+ 15	0.9	27.2
74	38	Simon Grp	40		2.0	10.6
61	25	Sketchley	29	+ ½		
320½	181½	Skillsgroupt	263½		2.1	24.1
493	254	Spring Grp	261½	+ 1½	2.1	
130	85	Stai-Plus	104	+ 4½	13.6	10.3
275	92	Superscape VR	119			
151½	85	Tolex	101½	+ 1½	2.8	17.0
4050	2250	Tyco Intl	3250		0.2	
148½	86½	WSP Group	122½	+ 9	3.1	13.6
225	153	Warner Howrd	154		9.7	6.9
332½	176	Waste Mgt Intl	330			72.7
513½	332½	Waste Recyg	393½		0.9	30.0
278½	199	Whitehead Mann	202½		4.6	13.8
100½	62½	Whole Young Grn	83		5.3	12.8
500	304	Williams	316	- 4	5.0	16.3
480	215	Zergo	297½	+ 15		

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
908	411½	BT	795	+ 21	3.0	24.6
836½	153½	COLT Telecom	565½	+ 39		
863	467½	Cable Wireless	627	+ 44	2.0	28.7
716½	264½	Cable&Wle Comms	461	- 4½		
1132½	252½	Energis	737½	+ 32½		
397½	130	Euro Telecom	142½		2.6	12.3
321	77½	General Cable	232½	+ 1		
137½	17½	Ionica Group	23	+ 3½		
820	338½	Orange	601½	+ 28		
573	286½	Securicort	474	+ 27	0.5	45.7
209½	69½	TeleWest	135½	+ 3½		
960	298	Vodafone	805	+ 69	0.9	61.6

TRANSPORT

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
440	210	Air London	295	- 1	3.0	16.6
357	179	All Airport Air	215½	+ 20½		
518	330½	Amart	369½	+ 1	4.6	10.5
388	256½	Assoc Br Ports	282½	+ 6½	4.0	13.9
372	250	Autologic	295	+ 12½	3.2	13.3
293½	166½	Avis Europe	216½	- 1½	1.7	21.5
731½	402½	BAA	605	+ 1½	2.8	16.6
721	415	Br Airways	442	+ 7	4.7	11.5
140½	79½	Clarkson (H)	80	+ ½	6.2	9.1
192½	135½	Clydeport Ops	181	+ 1½	4.0	9.8
232½	158½	Dart	188½	+ 2	2.4	17.0
82½	43½	Eurotunnel Uts	59	+ 1		
501½	221½	FirstGroup	440	+ 2	1.9	25.4
140	80	Fisher (James)	80		5.0	6.1
692	490	Forth Ports	502½	+ 7½	3.8	11.8
92½	60	Frontline	70			
815	510	Go-Ahead	671½	- 2½	1.6	16.1
601½	397½	Goode Durrant	400		3.7	11.5
498	305½	Helphire Gp	406	+ 1	0.4	36.8
1135	720	Insn Coml	720		0.8	15.4
96½	66½	Jacobs	66½	- ½	4.3	15.4
642½	444½	Mersey Docks	449		4.2	15.9
203	111	NFC	112½	- 12½	5.9	11.7
1120	676	Nat Express	874	+ 23	1.9	19.7
815½	562½	Ocean Group	613	- 28½	2.8	17.5
121½	88½	Ocean Wilson	90½		6.1	5.8
1012	650	P & O Dfd	685	- 2½	5.6	15.5
120½	107½	P & O 5.5%	120½		5.7	
515	344	Pdsn Rbl	365	- 2½	6.5	7.5
1566	571½	Railtrack	1431	+ 3	2.1	23.2
130	86	Salvesen (C)	97½	+ 10½	9.4	10.5
49	36	Seacon	38½		4.1	28.2
296½	190	Seascope Shp	197		7.9	4.8
311½	144	Servisair	153½	+ 6	4.3	12.4
1477½	765	Stagecoach	1095		1.4	22.3
628	427½	Tibbet & Britn	428½	- 9	5.1	11.2
330½	232½	TDG	241½		5.3	16.3
116½	76½	Ugland	76½		8.4	4.9
72½	30½	Utd Carriers	30½	..	14.3	8.0

WATER

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
987½	780	Anglian	867½	- 7½	5.6	9.8
335	285	East Surrey	290	- 2	5.2	
1053½	907	Hyder	973½	+ 7	5.4	10.0
128½	115½	Hyder Cm Prf	125	+ ½	7.9	
775	660	Mid Kent Hdgs	675		6.1	8.7
1145	864½	Pennon	1017½	+ 3½	5.0	12.7
1088	665	Severn Trent	1022½	- 7½	4.2	11.3
3795	3265	South Staffs	3756	+ 7½	3.5	14.3
1176	811	Thames	1090	+ 5	4.5	12.0
974	658	Utd Utilities	867	- 3	5.1	10.6
617½	452	Wessex	589	...	4.4	11.6
580	436½	Yorkshire	481	+ 7½	5.3	9.8

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
235	148	Cafe Inns	148		2.8	9.6
29	13½	Chorion	20	+ 2½		
65½	19½	Megalomedia	22½		1.4	9.7
38	18½	Memory Corp	20	- 1		
847½	445	Remco Egy	467½			
847	705	Southern News	711	+ 6	3.7	13.9
94½	75½	Southern Vecuct	75½		3.8	10.8

Source: FT Information

Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; * Figures or report awaited. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 index.

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BRITISH FUNDS

1998 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
100½	100	Treas 7¼% 1998	100	..	7.25	7.65
105	100	Treas 15½% 1998	100	- ½	15.44	6.04
104	100	Exch 12% 1998	100	..	11.90	6.94
102	100	Treas 9½% 1999	100	- ½	9.43	7.11
106	102	Exch 12¼% 1999	102	..	11.92	7.00
104	102	Treas 10½% 1999	102	..	10.26	6.99
99	98	Treas 6% 1999	99	+ ½	6.04	6.70
106	103	Conv 10¼% 1999	104	+ ½	9.84	6.55
105	102	Conv 9% 2000	103	+ ½	8.69	6.48
104	102	Treas 8% 2000	103	+ ½	7.71	6.15
103	101	Treas 8½% 2000	102	+ ½	8.28	6.47
114	110	Treas 13% 2000	111	+ ½	11.68	6.37
109	107	Treas 10% 2001	108	+ ½	9.27	6.15
102	100	Treas 7% 2001	102	+ ½	6.80	5.98
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
103	101	Treas 7% 2002	103	+ ½	6.73	5.80
113	111	Treas 9¾% 2002	113	+ ½	8.58	5.85
109	108	Treas 8% 2003	109	+ ½	7.28	5.65
118	115	Treas 10% 2003	118	+ ½	8.43	5.66
114	110	Treas 11½% 2001-04	112	+ ½	10.24	6.15
95	90	Fund 3½% 1999-04	95	+ ½	3.68	4.47
130	116	Conv 9½% 2004	130	+ ½	7.91	5.59
105	101	Treas 6¾% 2004	105	+ ½	6.33	5.48
117	113	Treas 8½% 2005	117	+ ½	7.22	5.48
121	117	Conv 9½% 2005	121	+ ½	7.82	5.57
130	127	Treas 12½% 2003-05	130	+ ½	9.58	5.64
113	107	Treas 7½% 2006	113	+ ½	6.60	5.41
114	108	Treas 7¾% 2006	114	+ ½	6.76	5.45
107	104	Treas 8% 2002-06	107	+ ½	7.44	5.89
129	119	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	122	+ ½	9.60	5.86
121	115	Treas 8½% 2007	121	+ ½	7.00	5.41
114	108	Treas 7¼% 2007	114	+ ½	6.35	5.31
128	121	Treas 9% 2008	128	+ ½	7.01	5.32
122	113	Treas 8% 2009	122	+ ½	6.55	5.31
108	98	Treas 6¼% 2010	108	+ ½	5.76	5.30
133	124	Conv 9% 2011	133	+ ½	6.74	5.35
137	125	Treas 9% 2012	137	+ ½	6.65	5.35
103	93	Treas 5½% 2008-12	103	+ ½	5.34	5.11
122	112	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	122	+ ½	6.33	5.38
LONGS (over 15 years)						
126	116	Treas 8% 2013	126	+ ½	6.30	5.36
130	118	Treas 8% 2015	130	+ ½	6.12	5.27
141	127	Treas 8¾% 2017	141	+ ½	6.19	5.27
136	121	Tr 8% 2021	136	+ ½	5.84	5.20
UNDATED						
66	55	War Ln 3½%	66	+ ½	5.30	
46	38	Treas 2½%	46	+ ½	5.45	...
72	61	Consols 4%	71	+ ½	5.59	
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:					5%	3%
202	194	Treas IL 2½% 2001	200	- ½	2.84	3.20
209	192	Treas IL 2½% 2003	200		2.67	2.81
129	124	Treas IL 4½% 2004	129	- ½	2.53	2.72
220	206	Treas IL 2% 2006	220	- ½	2.47	2.61
202	187	Treas IL 2½% 2009	202	- ½	2.43	2.54
214	195	Treas IL 2½% 2011	214	- ½	2.43	2.53
180	162	Treas IL 2½% 2013	179	- ½	2.41	2.49
197	175	Treas IL 2½% 2016	196	- ½	2.40	2.48
194	170	Treas IL 2½% 2020	193	- ½	2.41	2.47
166	142	Treas IL 2½% 2024	166	- ½	2.38	2.43
154	140	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	153	- ½	2.35	2.40

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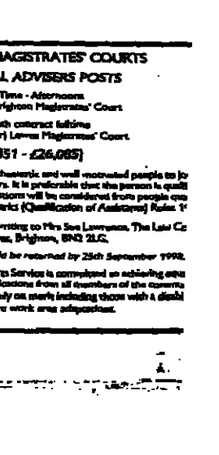
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For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Kate Sutcliffe, Stephen Leavy, or Samantha Mallin on 0171 405 6062 (0956 569 203 evenings/weekends) or write to them at QD In-House Legal. Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394.

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For an information pack please call the Lord Chancellor's Department recruitment line on 0171 210 1303 during office hours before 21 September 1998. Application forms and recruitment packs are also available in braille, in large print and on cassette.

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A competitive remuneration package is available to the candidate with the drive, commitment and personal skills essential for a role of this calibre.

To discuss this position in further detail, contact: **Marian Lloyd-Jones**

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£(Outstanding) — ***4–8 Years pqe***

Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette (DLJ) is one of the world's leading investment banks which is undergoing a major international expansion. Through strategic acquisitions and organic growth in areas of proven strength DLJ is rapidly growing its presence in London, where it now employs more than 800 individuals.

As part of this dynamic growth DLJ now wish to expand the Legal Department with the appointment of a senior UK qualified corporate finance lawyer with 4–8 years pqe.

The work is high profile, international and domestic, involving M&A, general investment banking and corporate work. The position is heavily advisory and business orientated in nature.

This demanding role is likely to appeal to the very highest calibre professionals currently practising in leading international law firms or in similar roles at other leading finance houses.

For this outstanding and unique position you will be offered a substantial remuneration package (made up of base salary plus significant bonus) and excellent banking benefits.

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Greg Abrahams or Seamus Hoar on 0171 405 6062 (0171 435 4583 evenings/ weekends) or write to them at QD Legal. Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394.

E-mail: abrahamg@qdgroup.co.uk
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QD

International Aviation Finance/Leasing Lawyers

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Due to a recent reorganisation and *increasing demand for* in-house legal services, GE Capital Aviation Services is seeking two Lawyers to join its legal team based at our European headquarters located in Shannon, Ireland.

Senior Vice President 10+ years

You will lead a team of nine associates, six of whom are lawyers. You will be responsible for the assignment of large, complex asset-based transactions. Your role will also include structuring, negotiating and documenting leasing, sales, acquisitions and financing transactions.
In addition, you will be an integral member of a market driven business team responsible for delivering premier legal services around the world. This position will champion and lead the Quality effort within the Shannon legal team using six-sigma quality tools.

We are looking for a senior professional with a minimum of 10 years' transactional experience in aviation finance and leasing. Strong communication, presentation and negotiation skills are essential along with the ability to work well with senior management. You must be a proven leader and bring a strong international focus to your work.

Vice President 5+ years

As a lawyer your role will include structuring, negotiating and documenting leasing, sales, acquisitions and financing transactions. You will work in a dynamic team environment with significant approval empowerment at the deal team level. You will work closely with and provide supervision to *outside counsel on larger, more complex transactions* and/or litigation. In addition you will be responsible for the management of assigned corporate, compliance and quality activities.

You will have at least five years' financing and leasing experience within the aviation industry either from private practice or in-house. You will have proven negotiating, *commercial and analytical skills enabling you to work on* complex sales, financing and leasing issues as well as broader commercial agreements.

For both of these positions you will need to be pro-active, imaginative and a team player capable of working closely with all levels in one of the most global companies in the world. The ability to take a more strategic, rather than simply a legal role on certain transactions is essential. Both positions will require travel.

You will be offered excellent career opportunities and an outstanding salary, bonus and benefits package.

To discuss these opportunities further, please contact Samantha Malin or Kate Sutcliffe (QD In-House Legal) on 0171 405 6062 (0171 221 8526/0956 569203 evenings/ weekends) or write to them at 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH.

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To be successful, you will have a relevant legal/financial qualification, be able to assume significant responsibility, and be prepared to develop a detailed knowledge and understanding of construction contracts and associated legal documents.

Duties will include:

- ensuring compliance with the requirements of the Companies Act and other statutory, corporate obligations;
- ensuring compliance with the Pension Act 1995 and administration of the Group's pension and staff benefits schemes;
- control of commercial contracts, agreements and undertakings including the provision of advice to line managers and directors;
- liaison with legal advisors on matters of dispute and litigation;
- house management of the Group's Head Office facilities;
- special assignments and investigations.

Your dedication and commitment will reap rewards such as a salary and benefits package as indicated and relocation assistance if applicable.

If you have the key skills required, please send or fax your CV and covering letter, quoting Ref. TT/0358 and indicating your current salary details, to:

Sue Sowerby, Advising Consultant, JPW Advertising Ltd, Warlies Park House, Horseshoe Hill, Upshire, Essex EN9 3SL. Fax: +44 (0)1992 761188.

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LAW





KEYSTONE

The court's decision is final: Richard Madeley was cleared of shoplifting but Lady Barnett was found guilty

In defence of a trial by jury

As the Government considers limiting the right to jury trial, Roger Ede explains why the accused should be entitled to choose the court for their case

How many times have you come close to walking out of a store without paying for something? Distracted by crying children, tired, worried about work or a relationship or feeling the effects of medication, you may not have been paying attention to what you were doing. You could end up charged with shoplifting. It has happened: celebrated cases include that of Lady Isobel Barnett, who took her life in 1980 four days after being convicted of stealing food worth 87p from a shop. More recently, there was the case of Richard Madeley, of the TV-presenter couple Richard and Judy, who was prosecuted — and then found not guilty — of two charges of shoplifting from Tesco.

If that happened to you, would you regard it as a minor case, to be tried by lay justices in the magistrates' courts? Or would you consider that an accusation of being a thief was no minor matter and that you should be entitled to the option of choosing a jury trial?

When you are the person in the dock, a just result is more important than what is convenient for the system. The quality of decision-making matters more than the number of cases completed. There is no doubt that a jury trial is a superior process to a trial in the magistrates' court. It has important extra safeguards. What concerns the Government is that a jury trial may take longer and cost more and is more likely to result in an acquittal. That is why the Government is considering reducing its availability.

The Law Society is against removing the right to jury trial when theft is alleged and people risk losing their liberty, livelihood or reputation. Trials are conducted at a slower pace for the benefit of the jury, allowing a fuller consideration of evidence. The language used has to be easily understood by the jury (and, in turn, the accused). Jurors apply their experience of everyday life. Together, they represent a diversity of background: 12 ordinary people chosen at random who can benefit from their collective recall and group decision-making.

A vital prosecution witness may be a store detective or police officer who has regularly given evidence before the lay justices. There is a danger that the magistrates become case-hardened to defences such as "I just forgot to pay".

Restricting shoplifting cases to magistrates' courts would be justified only in less serious cases if the "dishonest" tag was removed. The person would simply be accused of having left the shop without paying (without a need to prove intention to steal) and would be offered the option of paying a fixed penalty without having to go to court.

Take another example of what could happen. Your son, in his first year at medical school, is charged with affray and causing grievous bodily harm. He was present when a friend started a fight with local youths. An eyewitness mistakenly identified him as being involved. The police found bloodstains on his shirt, but only because the person who was beaten had been pushed up against him. Your son's solicitor advises him to be tried in the Crown Court. Under the Government's proposals, a "We know best" approach would allow the lay justices to choose to decide on his guilt or innocence, rather than leave it to a jury. Your son's solicitor might want the defence to have a complete picture of the Crown's case which, in a Crown Court trial it must give the defence, rather than just a snapshot which he will get at a trial before lay justices. Or the solicitor may wish to seek to have the prosecution discontinue the case — on the ground of unreliability of evidence, for example. A case marked down for the Crown Court will be more fully reviewed as to whether prosecution is in the public interest and whether there is enough evidence. A Crown Court will also hear legal arguments over the admissibility of evidence: why adverse inferences should not be drawn from your son's silence on arrest or at the police station when he had had too much to drink and his lawyer advised him to say nothing.

At a Crown Court trial, the judge hears these legal arguments — in the absence of the jury — and deals with these issues, advising the jury about the law, applying the law to the facts of the case and summing up the evidence for the jury. In the magistrates' court, lay justices, without giving their reasons, decide on the law as well as on guilt or innocence. If there is to be a Crown Court trial, the prosecution must give the defence copies of its evidence, instead of just the snapshot of the case as in the magistrates' court.

Your son's solicitor may wish to try to persuade the prosecution to discontinue the case because of the unreliability of the evidence. A fuller review of the case by the Crown Prosecution Service inevitably comes after its being marked down for trial in the Crown Court. Further thought is given to whether a prosecution really is in the public interest and the evidence is checked by a lawyer. If that fails, the solicitor has a chance at the committal hearing in the magistrates' court to argue that the evidence falls short of what the jury needs in order to convict and that the case should be brought to an end there and then. So in a criminal case, when the assembled might of the police and the CPS is brought to bear on an individual, it is not surprising that a jury trial is a popular choice. Forcing someone to be tried in the magistrates' court against their will and their solicitor's better judgment is not cheaper when you consider the incalculable human cost of a wrongful conviction.

● *Comments to the Home Office are invited by the end of this month. The author, a solicitor, is secretary of the Law Society's criminal law committee.*

Question: When is disgusting not obscene?

James Ferman last month published his last annual report before his retirement after 23 years as the director of the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC). He criticises the police and magistrates for applying the law of obscenity "in too strict a manner to allow the material the customers want" and he concludes that "as we enter a new millennium, we must find a solution to the problem of pornography, which will not go away".

The Obscene Publications Act 1959 suffers from three main defects: it is poorly drafted, it is inconsistently applied and it lacks any coherent principle. It states that an article is obscene if its effect is such "as to tend to deprave and corrupt persons who are likely, having regard to all relevant circumstances, to read, see or hear the matter contained or embodied in it".



David Pannick QC

In a judgment in the House of Lords in 1972 concerning the magazine *Dingle Dangle No 3*, Lord Wilberforce complained that the statute offers no definition of "deprave and corrupt" and does not even identify whether the concern is that the impugned material may cause people to commit wicked acts, or whether the mischief is simply that erotic desires may be aroused. (The courts have held that the latter may be sufficient to establish obscenity.)

Because the Act provides no further criteria for the application of this branch of criminal law, Parliament has imposed as subjective a test of obscenity as that stated by Mr Justice Stewart in the United States Supreme Court in 1964: "I know it when I see it."

The courts have emphasised that a film is not obscene simply because it is disgusting. In the *Oz* case in 1971, Lord Chief Justice Widgery for the Court of Appeal accepted the defence's submission that the test under the 1959 Act is not whether material is "repulsive, filthy, loathsome or lewd". In 1972, the House of Lords explained that "corrupt" is "a strong word", meaning much more than to "lead astray morally".

The consequence is that, in applying "the current standards of ordinary decent people" (the principle stated by Lord Reid in 1972), juries rarely convict videos or other material for obscenity where they simply show consensual sexual intercourse between adults, however graphic the detail. The Crown Prosecution Service does not expect to secure convictions for obscenity in jury trials unless the work contains images relating to children, animals, non-consenting adults, or gross degradation. However, by contrast, magistrates, purporting to apply the same legal principles, regularly and unjustifiably order the forfeiture of material similar to that which is acquitted of obscenity in jury trials.

This branch of the law lacks any coherent principle. Courts must determine whether a film may deprave and corrupt, and yet are forbidden from hearing any expert evidence on a complex question with profound psychological and ethical implications. It is, in any event, difficult to understand how magistrates can rationally conclude that pornographic films tend to deprave and corrupt viewers when there is no evidence that ready access to such material in (for example) France, Germany and The Netherlands has resulted in widespread depravation and corruption.

There is — so far as I know — nothing to suggest that those police officers, magistrates and barristers who regularly watch pornography in the course of duty are any more depraved and corrupt than their colleagues. Perhaps they all adopt the approach recommended in 1978 by John Mortimer, QC, who wrote that as counsel for the defence: "At the showing of blue movies at Scotland Yard I take the precaution of removing my glasses, which reduces the whole messy business to an impressionist blur".

I must here declare a professional interest as counsel for the distributors of a pornographic film in a recent appeal before the Video Appeals Committee sitting in Frith Street, Soho.

Mr Mortimer conceded that pornography was far from attractive, but he was "sure that censorship is more dangerous". The BBFC, under Mr Ferman, has sensibly recognised that in all but very extreme cases a system of classification rather than censorship is appropriate. Those who may be offended or disgusted have no obligation to watch. Those who wish to buy pornography should be able to do so, but only in licensed sex shops, out of sight of the rest of the community. To ban such material is an indefensible restriction on freedom of expression, it is contrary to the contemporary community standards expressed by jury acquittals and it is futile in an age of ready access to such material through the Internet, satellite broadcasting and purchase abroad.

Mr Ferman has spent much of the past 23 years watching the unpleasant, the vile and the evil. It has not impaired his ability to analyse the need for reform of our obscenity laws.

● *The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.*

New look for the law lords

A NEW look for the highest court in the land. As Lords Goff of Chieveley and Lord Nolan retire this month, Lord Justice Hobhouse and Lord Justice Millett, both 66, move up from the Court of Appeal to the Lords. There has been speculation that the two appointments move the complexion of the law lords further to the Right. Those keen to keep the liberal composition of the highest tribunal may be comforted that Lord Browne-Wilkinson, 68, moves up to be top dog — he is now the senior Lord of Appeal in Ordinary.

But regulars before the Lords say that the role of senior law lord is not what it was. "There is not the old deference to the senior law lord," they claim. "He does not control the questions. Now every law lord wants his say; they all chip in."

Leading LAG wanted

WANTED: somebody to run the Legal Action Group (LAG). Since Roger Smith left the group in July to be director of education and training at the Law Society, the LAG has been leaderless. Mr Smith was director of the pressure group-cum-publishing and training company for 12 years and by the time of his departure his name had become synonymous with the group. When his job was advertised, not one suitable candidate stepped forward. A second attempt to fill the post will be made soon.

● *THE stream of wallpaper-related quips about Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, has continued — but now the quips are coming from the Lord Chancellor's lips. In June, when he accepted the Lawyer/Hifal Legal Personality of the Year award, he thanked all those lawyers who voted for him, especially those called "Wallpaper". A month or so later he was at it again — this time at a media reception in his now notorious apartment. Now the South London Law Society's journal has reported how, at a solicitors' dinner, the Lord Chancellor told of a Peckham greengrocer writing to ask him for off-cuts of his wallpaper on a "no stick, no fee" basis.*



Lord Irvine of Lairg: decorating jokes

Legal mystery

LONDON police are trying to trace the owner of an unusual implement they think was used to stab a teenager in a brutal murder last month. The implement, which looks like a screwdriver with its end cut off, was found at the scene of the murder at Rush Common on Brixton Hill. The police think it is either a collar awl, as used by saddlers, or a lawyers' bodkin, which solicitors used for bundling legal documents before modern technology took over. Dean Martindale, 17, died on August 2 after he was attacked by four youths. A 16-year-old youth has been charged in connection with the incident, and police want to identify the suspected murder weapon. An officer says: "We would like to hear from anyone who has lost a collar awl or a lawyer's bodkin or has seen someone using or carrying one in unusual circumstances."

● If you have any information, telephone Detective Inspector Adrian Pardoe-Blackledge at 0181-247 8073 or Crimestoppers on 0800-555 111.

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CONSTRUCTION PARTNER £90–£250,000
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Employment lawyers know that are in demand at the moment but so often it is by firms that see employment as a support function or source of referrals. Our client, a prestigious fifteen partner practice, values employment work in its own right. They seek a senior employment specialist who is not daunted by the prospect of building on already strong foundations and growing a unit which will become known as one of the best employment team in London.

HEAD OF CO/COMM from £100,000
Prosperous and well-managed City firm, successfully combining a broad commercial practice with a national reputation as a 'niche-leader' seeks a highly motivated yet personable Co/Comm solicitor (aged 32+) with flair and vision to take over both role and clients from the retiring head of the department. Immediate partnership

FIN SERVICE/REGULATORY to £260,000
Recognised as a leader in several niche fields this well focussed City firm seeks to further strengthen its highly rated financial services/regulatory practice with a senior practitioner who has a proven track record and ideally some experience with OEIC's. An excellent opportunity, which does not require a following, to join a successful practice at partnership level with all the benefits that this implies.

INTERNAT TRADE/TRANSPORT £90–£220,000
We are instructed by a medium-sized, collegiate and highly profitable City firm whose continuing success is due, in part, to their pioneering approach to the cross-fertilisation of legal and practice development skills within a well structured and focussed client base. This includes a number of substantial organisations involved in international trade, including manufacturers, multi-modal transport providers and insurers, who will instruct the team, but to whom at present the firm cannot offer the necessary degree of specialist expertise in this field. A superb platform and partnership opportunity awaits an ambitious lawyer with relevant experience

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY to £150,000
Property lawyers rarely get the chance to enjoy the advantages and rewards of partnership in high profile international firm. You could be the exception if you are a development specialist with good contacts and a hunger for the excitement of a cosmopolitan client base. This enormously profitable practice retains the culture of a medium sized partnership but has prestigious clients worldwide. It is now ready to offer the opportunity to a young partner to expand an already dynamic and successful international property practice.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION from £90,000
Here's one for the litigators out there! Central London, entrepreneurial and commercial firm with an active international client base seeks a general commercial litigator to join a booming department. A stable, friendly and democratic firm offering immediate partnership and top quality instructions.

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To discuss any of the above appointments in detail, please contact Penny Terndrup, Sarah King or Simon Janion on 0171 404 6669 (evenings/weekends: 0181 675 8711), or write to us, in complete confidence at 44/45 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1JB (Fax: 0171 404 8817).

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BANKING & FINANCE

Corporate Finance
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Our client is the Manchester based corporate finance team of an international company, seeking a commercially minded lawyer to join the team as a corporate financier.

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Premier Financial Institution
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This well respected and dynamic global securities house has a large and well organised transaction management department.

The team consists of both city trained lawyers and banking professionals, providing advisory and transactional services to the capital markets and derivatives business areas. It now seeks an experienced lawyer to undertake a senior role within the department. With the maturity to manage and supervise junior team members the successful candidate will enjoy a broad diet of complex structured derivatives work. Strong product knowledge and technical ability is essential. Total remuneration is outstanding.

Investment Management
Commercial Lawyers

Our client is a premier investment management group, whose legal department is undergoing a period of expansion due to a marked increase in business.

This has resulted in the need for two further lawyers, both with 3-4 years' pqe. The first will already have gained a good grounding in retail products, particularly unit trusts and PEPs, and would be involved in product development work, necessitating a good understanding of the regulatory framework. The second, will be a general company/commercial lawyer who would enjoy a mixed role encompassing general counsel combined with a learning curve in financial services.

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PENSIONS
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CONSTRUCTION
1 to 4 Years Qualified ***to £51,000***
Lively City firm seeks a young construction lawyer for its expanding construction department. The work involves a mix of contentious and non-contentious matters. You will be working with leaders in the field and with some of the best national and international clients. A bright, sparky and dynamic personality is essential. Rare opportunity. Ref: T.03990.K

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION PARTNER
5 Years + Qualified ***£ First Class***
Established West End firm is now on the look out for a head of commercial litigation to develop its ever busy commercial litigation department still further. The ideal candidate will be a proven marketeer and your skills should be evidenced by a six figure following. In return the rewards will be exemplary and you can join a truly cohesive (and profitable!) partnership unit. Ref: T.06670.H

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
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BANKING ***$Australia***
4 Years Qualified
This leading international Australian firm seeks a banking lawyer to work in its Brisbane office. Experience from a known London firm is required, with project and asset finance experience preferred but not essential. This growing team of lawyers enjoys a lively working environment and living life to the full. Partnership is a matter of course. The firm will sponsor for visas. Come and enjoy a real summer all year long. Ref: TAUS.M

FSA LAWYER ***to £53,000***
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An increase in enforcement and investigation work has resulted in the need for a further FSA lawyer to join this top Financial Services team based in the City. The firm is also looking for a non-contentious FSA lawyer to deal with an extremely diverse and international work load. This is no dull, paper-pushing job. Those from in-house backgrounds are also of interest. Ref: T.9092.G

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Please contact Andrea Melnick, Tanya Aljevic or Bryn Bowden on 0171 417 1400 or write to them (all qualified lawyers) at the London office of GARFIELD ROBBINS for more information in complete confidence. Call Evenings, Weekends 0171 431 5860. Confidential Fax 0171 417 1444. Email: andrea@garfieldrobbins.co.uk

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HOT JUST COMMERCIAL PROPERTY **3+ Years' PQE**
Times have never been so good for commercial property lawyers but what about the recession? This expanding City firm offers a once in a lifetime opportunity for a senior commercial property lawyer to take on a hybridized property and corporate role acting for leading international IP and IT clients and linking the corporate and property departments. An exceptional package is offered. **Ref: 6385. Contact: Scott Gibson.**

CONTENTIOUS IP **All Levels**
With 15 offices across 7 countries, this international law firm has recently attracted a number of high profile UK lawyers to help reinforce their worldwide reputation in the fields of patent, trademark and copyright protection. The firm's has outstanding client base which is equally as strong in the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and technology industries. A minimum of 1 years' PQE is required. **Ref: 7528. Contact: Peter Gordon.**

CORPORATE FINANCE/CAPITAL MARKETS **New York**
Along with our colleagues at Major, Hagen & Africa, probably the leading attorney search firm in New York, we are increasingly being instructed by firms who wish to attract UK or Australian qualified assistants. You will have gained 1-5 years' PQE and wish to spend no less than three years in the US. Experience preferred includes: M&A, public and private capital markets or asset-based lending. Call for a chat. **Ref: NY/USA. Contact: Peter Gordon.**

SENIOR IP – CITY **Assistant – Partner**
This fast expanding international law firm is looking for a senior IP lawyer, either a 4-6 year qualified associate or a partner, to handle blue chip transactional work from their cutting edge IT and corporate departments. Your workload will be 90% non-contentious and will be predominantly copyright and trademarks for international companies. **Ref: 7421. Contact: Scott Gibson.**

IMMIGRATION **1-5 Years' PQE**
It is not every day that seriously good immigration jobs like this crop up. The firm is young, small-medium size, City – with an outstanding reputation for employment law (headed by a leading light) and also known for its excellence in immigration. You will join a team of two and enjoy all aspects of immigration work (with emphasis on executive immigration/ work permits) and also have the opportunity to do high calibre employment law. **Ref: 7481. Contact: Pandora Guthrie.**

EMPLOYMENT **0-3 Years' PQE**
This is a super opportunity to work with one of the leading lights in the employment field at this small City firm particularly respected for its employment law expertise. You will join the friendly team of seven lawyers and will deal with every aspect of employment law acting for both employers and employees who tend to be high-profile. **Ref: 7438. Contact: Pandora Guthrie.**

ENERGY/INT PROJECTS **0-4 Years' PQE**
Undoubtedly already one of the top players in the energy field, this City firm's energy practice is expanding rapidly. The international group specialises in onshore and offshore oil and gas transactions, minerals and other natural resources and power sectors. Work is high profile and clients include governments and some of the world's largest companies. Applicants with general corporate experience would also be considered. **Ref: 4860. Contact: Pandora Guthrie.**

CORPORATE/COMMERCIAL PRECEDENTS **6 Years'+ PQE**
Want a less stressful but still highly satisfying career? Young and dynamic City firm seeks a lawyer who has excellent corporate transactional experience to update and review its broad range of corporate/commercial precedents. This is a part-time role which could also be undertaken from home if desired. If you would enjoy being in control of your working hours this is an opportunity not to be missed. **Ref: 7525. Contact: Pandora Guthrie.**

ENERGY (GAS AND ELECTRICITY) **4-6 Years' PQE**
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EC/COMPETITION AND COMMERCIAL **3-5 Years' PQE**
Opportunities for a mid-level assistant are unparalleled in this firm which is one of the fastest growing practices of the last 5 years. The worldwide clientbase provides high quality commercial/corporate work which necessitates the opening for an experienced solicitor, looking for a mixed role of both commercial and EC/Competition work. As one of the most profitable City firms, you are assured of a superb package. **Ref: 7514. Contact: Jane Glassberg.**

PROPERTY **0-2 Years' PQE**
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MEDIA/BROADCASTING (circa 1-2 Years' PQE) **West End**
Leading broadcaster, part of international group, is seeking a bright career-minded lawyer with previous media experience. The role will include dealing with a broad range of commercial issues, copyright and preforming rights. Previous exposure to EU law and ITC work would be an advantage. Excellent salary and package on offer. **Ref: 7492. Contact: Richard Gawa.**

TELECOMS/MULTI-MEDIA (circa 4-6 Years' PQE) **London/Home Counties**
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MEDIA/BUSINESS AFFAIRS (circa 2-4 Years' PQE) **London**
Dynamic and growing media company have an excellent opportunity offering a rare mix of legal and business affairs work within an established legal department. The role includes production and distribution agreements as well as good IP work. This job represents an ideal career move for an ambitious media lawyer. **Ref: 7471. Contact: Richard Gawa.**

BROADCASTING (circa 4-5 Years' PQE) **London**
Broadcaster has a challenging position for a lawyer with circa 4-5 years' media experience. The role will centre around production work dealing with commercial, IP and some music issues. The successful applicant will be likely to be either working in a leading law firm or has already moved "in-house", have a good degree and be a strong communicator. **Ref: 7527. Contact: Richard Gawa.**

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Planning Lawyers

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Frances Gibb reports on a new survey that reveals the profession's most wanted



Lawyers in a league of their own: Guy Beringer, left; Nigel Boardman, Habib Motani and Anthony Salz

Where the best lawyers turn for top advice

Whom do lawyers pick from their colleagues when they need top legal advice? A survey published this week lifts the lid on who is regarded as the lawyers' lawyer in the commercial world — the best business lawyers according to in-house lawyers and company legal departments, as well as heads of industry and senior finance directors. These are the lawyers who are likely to be in the top-money league, among those who, according to latest figures, are making profits of between £500,000 and £900,000 a year.

The top 15, who were all recommended by several companies, are at the big City firms, apart from Paul Hally of the Scottish firm Shepherd & Wedderburn. Topping the league table is Guy Beringer at Allen & Overy, with Nigel Boardman at Slaughter & May, Habib Motani at Clifford Chance and Anthony Salz at Freshfields. The survey, contained in *The 1998 Chambers and Partners Guide to the Legal Profession*, draws on the recommendations from *The Times 1,000 Companies* list. Companies surveyed were asked to name lawyers who went beyond just being legal advisers, but were also imaginative, creative and commercial.

Mr Beringer was praised as "a charming and sophisticated user-friendly lawyer" who responds rapidly to a changing situation, while Nigel Boardman, who heads his firm's corporate department and is highest of the four Slaughter partners in the list, is hailed as being "outstandingly able and effective" and for his "creative, pragmatic advice". Mr Motani is described as a leading practitioner in international capital markets and derivatives and Mr Salz, senior partner at Freshfields, as "undoubtedly one of the market leaders" and "a hands-on, lead-from-the-front lawyer". Those who make the second band win similar praise.

The Chambers guide is now a crucial tool for anyone researching the legal market. As well as being a comprehensive directory of leading law firms and the Bar, with profiles and of firms and leading specialists in subjects from aviation to agriculture, shipping to sport, throughout the country, it contains a package of tables and surveys. These include the corporate finance survey, a league table based solely on the opinions of clients of the top corporate firms in the UK, which sees Slaughter & May this year move into top slot, both in terms of reputation and user-friendliness.

Reena SenGupta, the editor, says: "Slaughter & May has built on a highly profitable year while not pursuing the international strategies of other top commercial firms."

Linklaters is in second place with Freshfields and Clifford Chance following. But the verdict is that after these firms, there is "clear water" between them and their nearest rivals.

And in a new national survey of commercial property firms, Nabarro Nathanson, the archetypal propery firm, is pushed into third place by Linklaters, and Berwin Leighton and Addleshaw Booth & Co of Leeds and Manchester and the Scottish firm McGrigor Donald move into the lists.

● *The directory is available on CD-Rom and the Internet (www.chambersandpartnerscom); CD-Rom and hardback, £45 each. From major bookshops and the distributor Biblios (01403-710971).*

LEGAL HOTSHOTS WANT MORE THAN MONEY

■ MORALE is up among young lawyers, but many are looking to forsake high salaries for a better quality of life outside London.

That is the key finding of a survey this week by Zarak Macrae Brenner (ZMB), the legal recruitment consultants, in conjunction with *The Times*. The survey, of 700 young lawyers — mostly aged between 26 and 30 — found that a third of respondents were likely or very likely to move within the next 12 months. Jonathan Brenner, a director of ZMB, says: "Increasingly, they seem disenchanted with jobs in the City and the US law firms. With the long-hours culture, they find they have no time to spend the money they earn. There is a big shift towards quality of life — a third of those who said they were likely to move said that they would find a move outside London attractive."

Jobs in companies — in-house legal departments — were also increasingly attractive. "They believe," he says, "that they can be more involved with decision-making, work with one business rather than be brought into bits of transactions, and are treated better when it comes to pension schemes and bonuses."

Most of those surveyed earned £35,000 to £54,999 and two thirds worked for a London-based law firm. Most thought their firms had excellent reputations and provided high-quality work but gave poor verdicts on the firms' ability to manage people. Factors influencing a decision to change jobs were chiefly a firm's reputation and the calibre of staff.

Why music is slow to move to the Internet beat

The music industry would seem to have the most to gain from the Internet revolution, yet so far it has been the last to join the party. The technology enabling Net browsers to download pop, rock and dance music from a website on to a CDR (recordable CD) in their own home has existed for several years. But music industry legal and business practices seem to have slowed progress to a near halt. So reluctant is the industry to open its doors to the new medium that the Net still accounts for only 0.001 per cent of UK music sales and in the US the figure is a mere 0.003 per cent. The copyright issues of marketing and distributing music on the Net produce some peculiar legal obstacles.

Dean Marsh, a music lawyer, explains: "One example concerns where the sale is actually made. Is it at the consumer's home computer or the location of the company from whose website the consumer orders or downloads the music? Contract law suggests that the location of the person accepting the offer, the consumer, is the point of sale."

Where the sale takes place can decide how many royalties are received and by whom. Mr Marsh also points to the advertising revenue record companies reap from their websites. "Much of this revenue is undoubtedly generated by the music featured on the site," he says, "but artists receive no share. Record companies will earn an estimated $650 million worldwide in the next five years from such advertising, so it is an issue that artists should address."



Michael: pitching on the Net

Gavin Robertson is new media research and development manager at the MCPS/PRS Alliance, which collects money for composers and music publishers. He believes that market forces lie at the heart of the music industry's response to the Net. He says: "Heavy record company politics have come into play. Major record companies are much more than that. They are an aggregate of retail sales forces, distributors, manufacturers and marketeers. All these functions will be lost to the Net. Major record companies really just react to everything that either creates or destroys high street sales. The Net is the purest marketing and distribution tool and as such it can only destroy the high street sales on which majors depend.

"CDuctive, a US-based company, has cornered the market in online distribution for independent dance-music companies. The company has set up licensing deals with more than a hundred independent labels, and visitors to the CDuctive site can download music directly on to their CDRs. Users pay £4.70 for their first selection, then 60p for each subsequent track to a maximum of 72 minutes of music. The technique is known as 'custom-burning'." Tom Ryan, the co-founder, says: "People can learn about music they wouldn't otherwise be able to buy. A boy in the American Midwest can now access the most obscure UK electronica label. The young dance music audience also means they are more likely to be computer-literate."

Though some of the major companies such as Sony have tackled the issues raised by new technology, many music contracts need updating. Mr Marsh says: "Many artists' recording agreements do not provide for the proper transfer of online copyrights and lack a workable mechanism for paying the appropriate royalties."

Some serious investment in new practices and systems is needed, but there seems to be a stand-off between big labels and technology. Some insiders claim that record companies would rather the Net just went away. Another Net-based problem is copyright protection. The MCPS/PRS Alliance estimates that 26,000 websites offer music free without authorisation from or payment to UK writers and performers.

But without the demand from the industry to sell its products on the Net, the auditing and collection systems necessary to protect the creators of music will not evolve. The lack of demand from the industry is very visible from the range of music now available on the Net for downloading. Leading labels have held back their catalogues and the music available is invariably owned by small independent companies that have little to lose by marketing their music in this way. Aegean Records, owned by the singer George Michael, has provided music on the Net since it was founded.

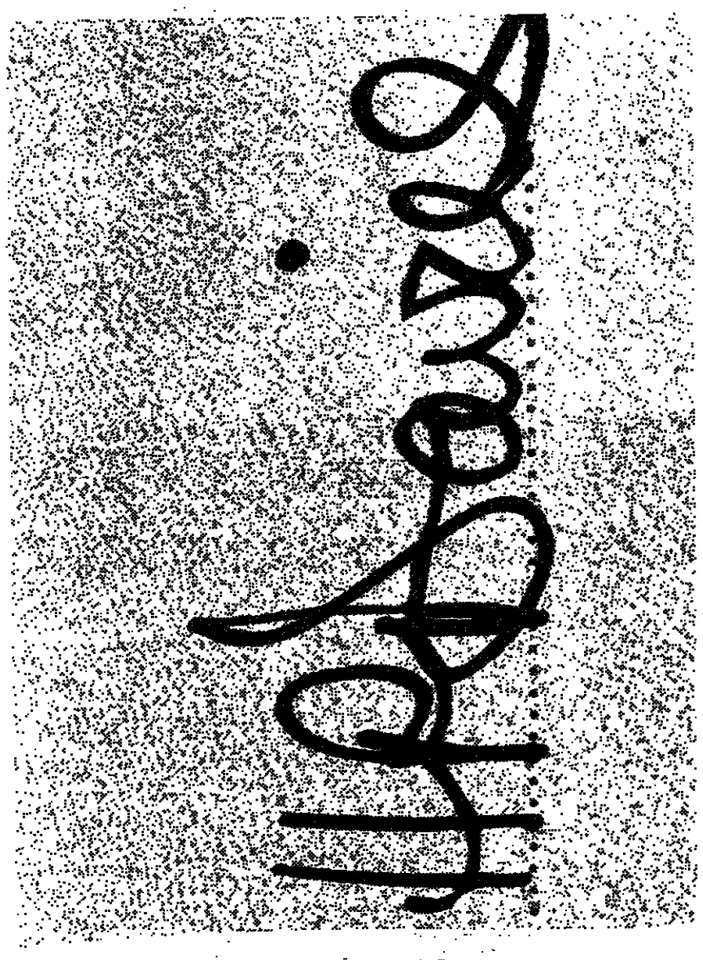
But, until big record labels agree to issue blanket licences for their catalogue to Net providers, the online offerings are unlikely to be anything but the more obscure margins of the music scene. The majors should beware of depriving music fans of what they want. The backlash of withholding their catalogues could be fatal to the industry. A digital copy of a CD is the same as the original. There is no loss of quality or degradation in the transfer, so the potential for electronic piracy is enormous: it could destabilise the industry. In the first quarter this year, sales of records in the UK increased by 8 per cent to £1.05 billion. If the industry is to maintain its rude health it must embrace the Internet now.

ADAM BARKER

● *The author is a music industry lawyer.*

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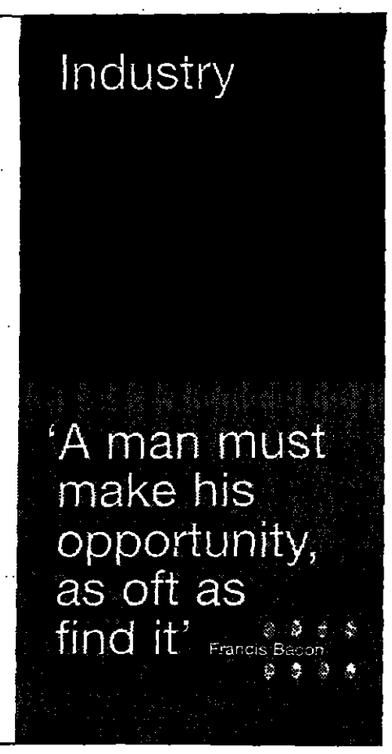
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Closing date: 25th September 1998.

Interviews will be held in late October 1998.

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CHANNEL FOUR TELEVISION

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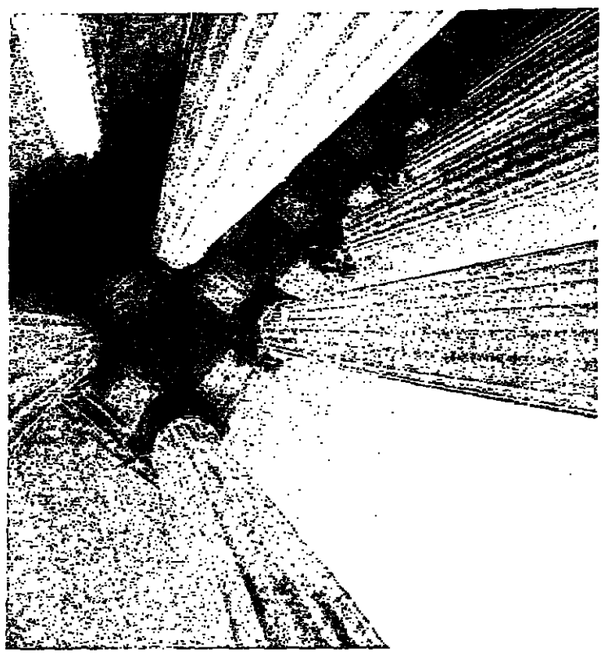
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Closing date for receipt of applications is: Friday, 25 September 1998 with interviews expected to take place in October 1998.

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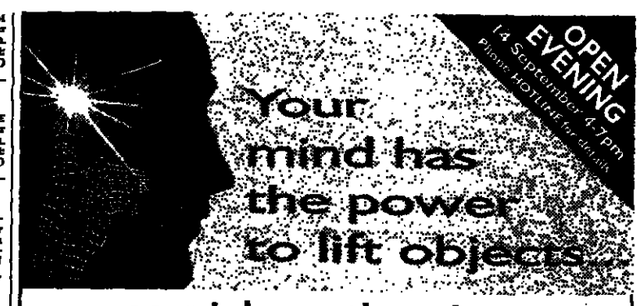
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RACING: PRIX NIEL PREFERRED TO ST LEGER AS GODOLPHIN'S ARC STRATEGY TAKES SHAPE

Sea change puts favourite out of classic

By Chris McGrath

IT IS just as well, from the point of view of punters, that Sea Wave looked such a good thing for the Pertemps St Leger on Saturday that bookmakers resisted offering prices for as long as they could. He will not be running at all.

Hurricane Danielle itself could not have whipped up such an overwhelming tidal wave as the one that crashed through everyone's assumptions when Sea Wave, 11-10 favourite when the Tote opened its book yesterday, was yesterday switched to the Prix Niel at Longchamp on Sunday. His place at Doncaster will be taken by Nedawi.

One of the most edifying features of the Godolphin revolution is that it has been conducted with exemplary deference to the betting public. Sheikh Mohammed's elite operation, which divides its year between Dubai and Newmarket, is run with none of the suspicion that afflicts some of the top stables in Flat racing. On this occasion, there will inevitably be those who feel that Godolphin has not matched its usual standards, but the fact remains that the flesh and blood of its horses comes first, and the pulse-rate of punters second.


ED BYRNE
Sea Wave will miss Doncaster to tackle one of the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe trials at Longchamp on Sunday

Simon Crisford, Godolphin's racing manager, explained that Sea Wave was being kept to a mile and a half as a more suitable springboard for a crack at the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. "I know it is a late decision, but it was only at evening stables that we discussed the situation with Sheikh Mohammed and Sheikh Maktoum," he said. "We have opted for the more traditional Arc trial because, while we felt he would get the trip at Doncaster, the extra distance made it less suitable."

Every option had always been preserved for the three Godolphin acceptors, though the assumption that Sea Wave was the most likely runner had embraced the Godolphin camp itself. "It's difficult with ante-post betting, and some people may feel as though they have been cheated," Crisford said. "But the reality is that you must always put the horses first. In a situation like this, where you hope a horse might go all the way, you have to be able to reserve the right to change your mind."

In Nedawi, Godolphin has an eminently competent substitute, as William Hill recognised by making him its new 2-1 favourite. He will be Godolphin's sole runner, with Central Park joining Sea Wave in Paris to ensure a sensible gallop. Frankie Dettori, pencilled in for Sea Wave at Doncaster, will switch to Leopardstown where he will ride Swain in the Irish Champion Stakes. John Reid partners Nedawi.

Though Swain meets One So Wonderful and Xaar, the Niel is now certain to be the pivotal Arc trial. The defeat of Peintre Celebre in last year's race confirmed that there is a big difference between the these sparring matches and the title bout over course and distance three weeks later. Pascal Bary, in particular, will be hoping that the Niel does not prove too bruising an encounter, as he runs both Dream Well, winner of the Prix du Jockey Club and Irish Derby, and Croco Rouge.

Both colts are returning from a break, and Bary said yesterday: "I would have preferred to run them in different races but there is no alternative. Cash Asmussen (Dream Well) and Sylvain Guillot (Croco Rouge) will be careful that they do not have a hard race. Both horses are well, but both will need the run to be ready for the Arc, especially Dream Well, as he tends to work lazily at home."

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright suggests the best value in the ante-post market

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Nuclear Debate	14-1	14-1	12-1	14-1
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Lago Di Varano	16-1	16-1	14-1	14-1
Anseliman	16-1	14-1	14-1	20-1

THE Tote Trifecta Portland Handicap, run over five furlongs and 140 yards, provides an unusual test for sprinters too far for out-and-out speedsters, but not a stiff enough test for many six-furlong performers.

Dashing Blue proved suited to the conditions when winning last year and would have sound claims of staging a repeat off a 5lb higher mark. However, he is also entered for a listed race at Doncaster on Thursday and is more likely to run then.

Lynda Ramsden's Nuclear Debate has claims judged on his easy success at Newcastle in June, but must be forgiven a poor run at Ripon last time.

First Maite weakened close home when fourth to Cadeaux Cher in the Great St Wilfrid at Ripon last time, and cannot be ruled out now that he is reunited with Kieren Fallon, who has ridden him to both of his successes this season.

Night Shot has gone from strength to strength this season, most recently staying on strongly to win a competitive handicap over five furlongs at York. He had previously fared best of those drawn low when sixth over six furlongs in the Stewards' Cup at Goodwood, and shapes as though tomorrow's trip will suit him ideally. At 11-1 with the Tote, **NIGHT SHOT** represents an excellent each-way bet.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

2.00 Superior Force
2.30 **ALABAQ** (nap)
3.00 Glastonbury
3.30 Bahamian Bandit
4.00 Be My Wish
4.30 Wishah
5.00 Doraid
5.30 Spring Anchor

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.30 **SARI**.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 Trump Street. 3.30 Single Shot. 4.30 **WISHAH** (nap).

GOING: GOOD (TURF COURSE); STANDARD (ALL-WEATHER) — SIS
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING — DRAW: 6F-7F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.00 EDENBRIDGE SELLING HANDICAP
(All-weather: £2,180: 1m 2f) (14 runners)

101	(5)	12d403	JAVA SHRINE 8 (B,D,F,G) (Plough Twenty) P Eccles 7-10-0	N Pollard (5)	61
102	(2)	003420	BAPSFORD 60 (CD) (Dunstall Park Centre Ltd) M Waring 4-10-0	A McGlone	75
103	(1)	40-650	SUPERIOR FORCE 50 (C,F) (Copyforce Ltd) Miss B Sanders 5-9-11	A Clark	28
104	(13)	110600	ERRANT 10 (CD) (Tallulah Racing) D Cosgrove 6-9-9	M Rimmer	57
105	(8)	410005	JUBILEE SCHOLAR 21 (B,CD) (M Johnston) G L Moore 5-9-8	N Callan (5)	63
106	(6)	400541	SOAKING 17 (C,F) (Image Office Supplies Ltd) P Burgoyne 8-9-3	J Tate	66
107	(9)	010000	GOLD CLIPPER 27 (P Axon) M Ryan 4-9-0	R Cochrane	67
108	(11)	00-036	BIYA 34 (CD) (Champ Chicken Co Ltd) D McCain 6-6-13	W J O'Connor	40
109	(7)	000032	TOP SHELF 8 (V,C) (V Lolzou) P Evans 4-8-13	C Cogan (7)	38
110	(10)	666600	ENCHANTING EVE 13 (C,G) (Newmarket Connections) C Allen 4-8-12	A Daly (3)	73
111	(12)	/00054	TYPHOON LAD 35 (P McCarthy) S Dow 5-8-12	P Doe (5)	59
112	(4)	506003	HAROLDON 6 (D,F,G) (Lamb Brook Associates) B Palling 9-8-9	T Sprake	81
113	(3)	000060	LIFT BOY 6 (C,F,G) (A Moore) G L Moore 9-8-7	Candy Morris	65
114	(14)	444060	MULTI FRANCHISE 36 (CD,F) (Equus Fegal Press) R Flower 5-8-7	S Drowne	68

BETTING: 5-1 Soaking, 6-1 Top Shelf, 8-1 Java Shrine, Jubilee Scholar, Haroldon, 10-1 Biya, 12-1 others.

1997: HARLEQUIN WALK 6-8-11 J Quinn (11-4 jt-fav) R O'Sullivan 14 ran

FORM FOCUS Java Shrine 1¾l 3rd of 17 to Ocean Park in selling stakes at Warwick (1m 2f 169yd; good to firm). Superior Force 12l 12th of 17 to Grinkov in handicap at Windsor (1m 2f, good). Jubilee Scholar 4l 5th of 11 to Prospector's Cove in handicap at Brighton (1m, firm). Soaking beat Castle Ashby Jack 5l in 12-runner selling handicap at Lingfield (1m, AW) with Lift Boy (11lb better off) 5¾l 6th. Top Shelf 1l 2nd of 16 to Patrita Park in amateur handicap at Brighton (1m 2f, good to firm). Typhoon Lad 1¾l 4th of 7 to Twin Time in maiden handicap at Bath (1m 2f, good). Haroldon 1½l 3rd of 15 to Cherokee Flight in handicap at Chepstow (1m 2f, good to firm).

HAROLDON is a tentative choice in a modest contest

2.30 EBF NUTFIELD MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES
(Div I: 2-Y-O: £3,307: 7f) (10 runners)

201	(7)	2	ALABAQ 38 (H al-Maktoum) J Dunlop 8-11	R Hills	41
202	(6)		COCOBAY (Mercaston Consultants Ltd) G McCourt 8-11	K Varley	–
203	(5)		COME WHAT MAY (Storm Again Syndicate) S Woods 8-11	J Tate	–
204	(3)		GEORGETTE (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 8-11	R Ffrench	–
205	(1)		MERE SLAD (Lambourn Racing Club) A P Jones 8-11	S Drowne	–
206	(4)		QUEEN OMAH (B Hackett) R Hannon 8-11	R Hughes	–
207	(2)		SUSANNE (Mrs P Hastings) Lord Huntingdon 8-11	D O'Donohoe	–
208	(10)	5	SWING JOB 12 (Shipman Racing) T Mills 8-11	Martin Dwyer	–
209	(9)	4	TRUMP STREET 25 (P Jacobs) N Graham 8-11	R Cochrane	62
210	(8)	00	VALDINI 20 (Spirits In Common) P Harris 8-11	N Pollard (5)	52

BETTING: 6-4 Alabaq, 7-2 Georgette, 4-1 Trump Street, 8-1 Queen Omah, Susanne, 12-1 Swing Job, 25-1 others.

1997: JIBE 8-11 K Fallon (4-9 fav) H Cecil 15 ran

FORM FOCUS Alabaq 1¾l 2nd of 8 to Orpen in maiden at Goodwood (6f, good). Georgette Geiger Counter filly out of lightly-raced US mare. Queen Omah Dolphin Street filly, half-sister to Conquering Hero. Susanne Batshoof filly, half-sister to several winners. Swing Job 6¾l 5th of 13 to Orazeenah in maiden at Folkestone (7f, firm). Trump Street 4l 4th of 17 to Circle Of Gold in maiden at Newbury (6f, good to firm). Valdini 9¾l 9th of 13 to Hula Angel in maiden at Kempton (7f, good to firm).

ALABAQ can improve on an encouraging debut at Goodwood

3.00 C & H (HAULIERS) NURSERY HANDICAP
(2-Y-O: £3,287: 7f) (18 runners)

301	(5)	035	ENFILADE 41 (B) (H Channon) B Hanbury 9-7	D O'Donohoe	54
302	(17)	043	GLASTONBURY 73 (P Savill) M Channon 9-2	Paul Eddery	47
303	(6)	006	DIAMOND GEEZER 29 (J B R Leisure Ltd) R Hannon 9-2	P Fitzsimons (7)	55
304	(14)	6300	GRECIAN TALE 54 (A Turnbull) A Jarvis 9-1	A McGlone	74
305	(11)	344	GHITA 30 (R McAuley) J Dunlop 9-0	R Cochrane	52
306	(15)	532215	LAMENT 13 (C,G) (A Griffin) Mrs L Stubbs 9-0	T Sprake	49
307	(9)	02614	JACK GOODMAN 8 (D,F) (Mrs V Goodman) J S Moore 8-12	P P Murphy (3)	57
308	(13)	006	HILL STORM 19 (E Kessly) K McAuliffe 8-11	J Tate	27
309	(3)	005	CHIEF ABBA 27 (B Hackett) R Hannon 8-11	R Hughes	27
310	(6)	02030	PATSY STONE 4 (I Fraser) M Kettle 8-10	N Callan (5)	55
311	(1)	000	PROUD PICTURE 20 (G N I Partnership) J G Smyth-Osbourne 8-9	R Perham	44
312	(7)	00040	KURSIANG 22 (C I T Racing Ltd) B Millman 8-7	M Fenton	52
313	(16)	0040	DANNY DEEVER 11 (B) (D Thom) D Thom 8-7	M Baird (3)	49
314	(2)	0063	ERITH'S CHILL WIND 13 (Advance Reprographic Printers) S Dow 8-6	A Clark	57
315	(18)	125030	MISS TAKE 45 (V) (Crewe & Nantwich Racing Club) P Evans 8-5	C Cogan (7)	52
316	(10)	023600	SWEET COMPLIANCE 32 (B) (M Hyde) P Shakespeare 8-5	N Pollard (5)	52
317	(12)	000	MAGIC LIGHT 26 (H Kelly) M Prescott 8-4	C Nutter	54
318	(4)	4050	ENCHANTED ISLE 25 (V) (D Donnet) C Dwyer 8-3	A Daly (3)	51

BETTING: 5-1 Jack Goodman, 6-1 Ghita, 7-1 Grecian Tale, 8-1 Kursiang, 10-1 Lament, 12-1 Enfilade, Diamond Geezer, Erith's Chill Wind, 14-1 others.

1997: HOLY WINE 8-13 R Cochrane (4-1 fav) D Loder 17 ran

FORM FOCUS Enfilade 1½l 5th of 11 to Lady Muck in maiden auction at Epsom (7f, good to firm) with Erith's Chill Wind (10lb better off) 3¼l 7th. Glastonbury 11l 3rd of 6 to Bemuse in maiden at Lingfield (5f, good). Diamond Geezer 7¾l last of 6 to Caballero in stakes at Windsor (6f, firm). Grecian Tale ½l 2nd of 7 to Retaliator in handicap at Leicester (6f, good to firm). Ghita 4½l 4th of 7 to Billy McCaw in maiden at Epsom (6f, good to firm) with Erith's Chill Wind (8lb better off) 9l 6th. Jack Goodman 1½l 4th of 13 to Relative Shade in handicap at Epsom (7f, good to firm). Hill Storm 15l 6th of 14 to Island Sands in maiden auction at Salisbury (6f, good to firm). Chief Abba 8½l 5th of 7 to Al Waffi in novice stakes at Salisbury (7f, good to firm). Kursiang 2¾l 7th of 10 to Cubism in handicap at Windsor (6f, firm). Erith's Chill Wind 3¼l 3rd of 5 to Robber Red in claiming stakes at Lingfield (6f, firm) with Lament (4lb worse off) 7¼l last. Magic Light 12l 7th of 11 to Manorbier in maiden auction at Chepstow (5f 16yd, good to firm).

GRECIAN TALE, well drawn, should go well in a competitive race

3.30 MARSH GREEN MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,826: 6f) (18 runners)

401	(2)	0	ASTRONOMER 10 (Dr C Wills) J Fanshawe 9-0	R Cochrane	35
402	(18)	5	BAHAMIAN BANDIT 62 (Lucayan Stud) R Hannon 9-0	R Hughes	51
403	(3)		CYRAN PARK (J K Racing) W Jarvis 9-0	Paul Eddery	–
404	(5)	0	HARP PLAYER 4 (B Maguire) M Bell 9-0	M Fenton	–
405	(16)		KILDEE GEM (J D'Donovan) A P Jones 9-0	S Drowne	–
406	(4)		MOON SHOT (Eclipse Thoroughbreds) M Prescott 9-0	C Nutter	–
407	(6)	00	ON THE BLACK 20 (V) (Pillar To Post Racing) M Kettle 9-0	A Clark	–
408	(10)	05	OTELLO 43 (Mrs M Slade) D Elsworth 9-0	N Pollard (5)	68
409	(14)	0000	OUR BANDBOX 11 (Bandbox Brigade) S Mellor 9-0	R Perham	32
410	(13)	44030	POKEIT 3 (J Bates (Bloodstock) Ltd) G L Moore 9-0	Candy Morris	34
411	(1)		ROOKIE (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 9-0	D Biggs	–
412	(8)	03	SINGLE SHOT 20 (D Kahn) L Cumani 9-0	R Ffrench	67
413	(11)	0	COMPTON AMICA 25 (E Penser) G A Butler 8-9	Martin Dwyer	35
414	(15)	0	LEMON STRIP 10 (H Weeks) B Palling 8-9	T Sprake	12
415	(7)		LOVELY ISLAND (Mrs J O'Halloran) R Johnson Houghton 8-9	R Price	–
416	(9)	30	SARI 36 (R Instone) P Cole 8-9	R Hills	78
417	(17)	0	SING FOR ROSIE 10 (Four Seasons Racing Ltd) P Makin 8-9	D Griffiths (3)	20
418	(12)		TRICKS (Miss C Holmes à Court) Lord Huntingdon 8-9	D O'Donohoe	–

BETTING: 7-2 Single Shot, 9-2 Bahamian Bandit, 6-1 Sari, 7-1 Moon Shot, 10-1 Harp Player, 12-1 others.

1997: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS Astronomer 6¾l 10th of 20 to Central Coast in maiden auction at Nottingham (6f 15yd, good to firm). Bahamian Bandit 3¼l 5th of 6 to Mujahid in novice stakes at Newmarket (6f, firm). Otello 4¾l 5th of 16 to Indiana Legend in maiden at Windsor (6f, good to firm). Single Shot 1½l 3rd of 18 to Hadeeyth in maiden auction at Kempton (6f, good to firm) with On The Black (levels) 28l last. Sari 2nd of ... Compton Amica 13l 13th of 17 to Circle Of Gold in maiden at Newbury (6f 8yd, good to firm). 17l 14th of 18 to Miss Universe in maiden at Windsor (6f, good to firm).

BAHAMIAN BANDIT showed ability in a hotter race at Newmarket on his first outing

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. Timekeeper's speed rating

4.00 49'S HBLB BLINDLEY HEATH HANDICAP [SHOWCASE RACE AND TOTE TRIFECTA RACE] (£8,675: 7f) (18 runners)

501	(9)	420320	STAND TALL 24 (D,F,G,S) (C Hardy) Lady Herries 6-10-0	Paul Eddery	79
502	(8)	401235	FREE OPTION 18 (C,F) (A Ali) B Hanbury 3-9-13	A Daly (3)	79
503	(1)	0-030	DOKULLA 61 (F,G,S) (A Boon) T D McCarthy 8-9-12	P Fitzsimons (7)	54
504	(11)	451100	AMBER FORT 19 (V,D,G,S) (Caledonian RS) D Elsworth 5-9-12	N Pollard (5)	83
505	(16)	4-0510	SILVER KRISTAL 23 (D,F) (Sir Eric Parker) R Armstrong 4-9-10	R Hills	76
506	(7)	000-P2	MOSCOW MIST 20 (F) (Martyn Motor Auctions) B Palling 7-9-4	T Sprake	91
507	(17)	-03156	BE MY WISH 5 (D,F) (T Tran) Miss G Kelleway 3-9-4	S Drowne	78
508	(5)	160533	STOPPES BROW 42 (B,D,F,S) (C Pennock) G L Moore 6-9-4	N Callan (5)	87
509	(14)	043333	PEPPIATT 8 (BF,CD,F) (K Reddington) D Nicholls 4-9-2	W J O'Connor	90
510	(15)	420100	MOZAMBIQUE 137 (D,S) (M Myers) Mrs J Cecil 4-9-2	Martin Dwyer	74
511	(10)	003520	BIG BEN 4 (BF,C,D,F,S) (Lady Davis) R Hannon 4-9-2	R Hughes	90
512	(4)	581305	APOLLO RED 17 (CD,F,G,S) (A Moore) G L Moore 9-9-2	Candy Morris	95
513	(12)	053204	FAMILY MAN 17 (F) (Family Man Partnership) J Fanshawe 5-9-1	R Cochrane	91
514	(6)	630030	TOPTON 20 (D,G) (L Sheridan) P Howling 4-8-13	D O'Donohoe	97
515	(13)	014150	EMPIRE STATE 11 (G,S) (Miss D Merson) M Tompkins 3-8-13	A Nicholls (5)	78
516	(2)	023301	CONTRARY MARY 17 (CD,F) (I Wood) J Akehurst 3-8-13	A Clark	91
517	(3)	002300	SUPER MONARCH 42 (D) (Chelgate PR Ltd) K Burke 4-8-13	M Fenton	70
518	(18)	055032	STATELY PRINCESS 8 (F) (S Crown) M Channon 3-8-3	A Mackay	80

BETTING: 7-1 Peppiatt, 8-1 Stand Tall, 10-1 Amber Fort, Moscow Mist, Stoppes Brow, Apollo Red, Family Man, Contrary Mary, 12-1 others.

1997: SAFEY ANA 5-8-0 F Fallon (8-1) B Hanbury 18 ran

FORM FOCUS Stand Tall 10l 20th of 22 to Cadeaux Cher in handicap at Ripon (6f, good to firm). Free Option 13l 5th of 11 to Sunstreak in handicap at Sandown (1m, good to firm). Amber Fort 16l 14th of 15 to Salty Jack in handicap at Salisbury (1m, good to firm). Silver Kristal distance last of 7 to Zelanda in stakes (listed) at Pontefract (6f, good to firm). Moscow Mist 1l 2nd of 17 to Mythos Mistake in handicap at Kempton (7f, good to firm) with Topton (4lb better off) 10l 13th. Be My Wish 5¾l 6th of 12 to Golden Fortune in handicap at Salisbury (7f, good). Stoppes Brow 1¾l 3rd of 19 to China Red in handicap at Goodwood (1m, good) with Topton (6lb better off) 7l 8th and Super Monarch (3lb better off) 12l 11th. Peppiatt 1¾l 3rd of 11 to Quiet Venture in handicap at Newcastle (7f, good to firm). Mozambique 15l 8th of 12 to Night Of Glass in handicap at Carlisle (1m, good to soft). Big Ben 6¼l 10th of 16 to Mutabassir in handicap at Epsom (7f, good). Apollo Red 4¼l 5th of 12 to Levelled in stakes at Lingfield (6f, good to firm). Family Man 1¾l 4th of 17 to Honest Borderer in handicap at Ripon (1m 1f, good to firm). Empire State 7¾l 11th of 13 to Stylish Ways in handicap at Newmarket (6f, good to firm). Contrary Mary beat Dilkusha 1l in handicap at Lingfield (7f, good to firm). Stately Princess 1l 2nd of 20 to Ichalong in handicap at Ripon (6f, good).

Plenty in with a chance, but BIG BEN narrowly gets the vote

4.30 EBF NUTFIELD MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES
(Div II: 2-Y-O: £3,307: 7f) (9 runners)

601	(3)		AT MY COMMAND (K Seow) W Jarvis 8-11	Paul Eddery	–
602	(9)	0	BERYL 11 (Capt J Macdonald-Buchanan) J Dunlop 8-11	W J O'Connor	59
603	(8)		KAZZOUD (Mrs A Upsdell) S Dow 8-11	A Clark	–
604	(4)		MIRACULOUS GUEST (S Simpson) M Kettle 8-11	T Sprake	–
605	(5)	0	SANTISSIMA 25 (B) (Mrs M O'Leary) B Meehan 8-11	B Hannon (7)	12
606	(7)	53	SCENIC BEAUTY 15 (Major A Everett) R Hannon 8-11	R Hughes	45
607	(2)		SCENIC LADY (Mrs C Dowling) J Sheehan 8-11	D Biggs	–
608	(1)		WISHAH (H al-Maktoum) J Gosden 8-11	R Hills	–
609	(6)	55	ZABAAD 27 (H al-Maktoum) M Tregoning 8-11	R Perham	54

BETTING: 7-4 Wishah, 5-1 Zabaad, 6-1 Beryl, Scenic Beauty, 8-1 Santissima, 10-1 At My Command, 12-1 others.

1997: VOCATION 8-11 Dane O'Neill (33-1) P R Webber 16 ran

FORM FOCUS At My Command Barathea filly out of Fly Dont Run. Beryl 8¾l 9th of 16 to Miss Amanpuri in maiden at Newmarket (7f, good to firm). Kazzoud Ezzoud filly, half-sister to 2 winners. Santissima 18l last of 17 to Circle Of Gold in maiden at Newbury (6f, good to firm). Scenic Beauty ½l 3rd of 6 to Missing Ted in maiden auction at Brighton (6f, good to firm). Wishah Red Rancom filly out of Ninja Gold. Zabaad 11l 5th of 15 to Greensand in maiden at Salisbury (6f, good to firm).

WISHAH comes with something of a reputation and can justify the confidence

5.00 OCE (UK) MAIDEN STAKES (£4,175: 7f) (18 runners)

1	(10)	60	CROFT REVEILLE 35 (Miss V Pratt) T D McCarthy 4-9-4	T Sprake	–
2	(2)	06000	KINNINO 20 (A Moore) G L Moore 4-9-4	Candy Morris	54
3	(9)		BELTESHAZZAR (John Jess) B R Johnson 3-9-0	A Daly (3)	–
4	(5)	3-22	DORAID 14 (Sheikh A al-Maktoum) J Gosden 3-9-0	A McGlone	80
5	(17)	0	EUROLINK MOUSSAKA 27 (Eurolink Group Plc) C Wall 3-9-0	Paul Eddery	37
6	(3)	00	FORGLORI 88 (R Lamb) C Benstead 3-9-0	R Price	–
7	(13)	605-26	KENNET 120 (Miss M Fraser) P Cundell 3-9-0	N Callan (5)	78
8	(12)		RAFTERS MUSIC (C Duncan) Mrs A Perrett 3-9-0	A Clark	–
9	(15)	-00652	SEVEN 38 (B) (Smart Set) B Smart 3-9-0	S Drowne	60
10	(14)	06	THAAYER 19 (Mrs J Wood) K Bell 3-9-0	W J O'Connor	64
11	(1)	00	LOCH DANCER 55 (Mrs E Crewe) D McCain 5-8-13	M Fenton	–
12	(16)	00-	TIERRA DEL FUEGO 260 (H Collingridge) H Collingridge 4-8-13	K W Marks	22
13	(11)	60	COBRA LADY 67 (Mrs A Hayes) C Egerton 3-8-9	R Hughes	35
14	(4)	0	FAIRY LIGHTS 67 (Dr C Stelling) P Makin 3-8-9	D Griffiths (3)	–
15	(18)	0-6640	KATYUSHKA 43 (Mrs B Woodford) D Chappell 3-8-9	R Perham	71
16	(6)	50	MERRY MELODY 8 (Mrs I Pentold) R Hodges 3-8-9	R Havlin (3)	–
17	(7)		SATWA BOULEVARD (A Merza) M Channon 3-8-9	R Cochrane	–
18	(8)		SILK PRINCESS (R Gun) R Flower 3-8-9	R Miles (7)	–

BETTING: 4-5 Doraid, 5-1 Kennet, 6-1 Katyushka, 10-1 Satwa Boulevard, 12-1 Seven, 14-1 others.

1997: DARNAWAY 3-9-0 K Fallon (4-6 fav) H Cecil 15 ran

FORM FOCUS Doraid short head 2nd of 8 to Elfjanah in maiden stakes at Lingfield (6f, good to firm). Eurolink Moussaka 4¾l 7th of 13 to The Woodcock in maiden auction at Nottingham (6f, good). Kennet 5¾l 6th of 23 to Ruzen in handicap at Windsor (6f, good). Seven 3½l 2nd of 10 to My Bold Boyo in maiden auction at Lingfield (7f 140yd, good). Thaayer 14l 6th to Splendid Isolation in maiden at Salisbury (7f, good to firm). Cobra Lady 12l 8th to East Winds in maiden at Warwick (6f, good).

DORAID has a clear opportunity to record his first success

5.30 KPMG MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(£2,490: 1m 3f 106yd) (14 runners)

1	(6)	0	DUTCH NIGHTINGALE 38 (B Beazley) G Enright 4-9-2	M Fenton	–
2	(1)	030040	EILEEN'S LADY 14 (J Guest) G Margarson 4-9-2	R Cochrane	47
3	(12)	00-400	KANAWA 8 (Lambourn Racing Club) A P Jones 4-9-2	S Drowne	49
4	(10)		NO NELLIE NO (Mrs V J Davey) L A Dace 4-9-2	T G McLaughlin	–
5	(7)	02	AGENT LE BLANC 54 (E Oliver) T Etherington 3-8-13	J Tate	70
6	(14)	230000	APPYABO 95 (M Quinn) M Quinn 3-8-13	DOUBTFUL	55
7	(9)	-03330	DA BOSS 66 (R Harris) W Muir 3-8-13	Martin Dwyer	68
8	(4)	-00300	GOLDEN REPRIMAND 4 (G Teo) R Hannon 3-8-13	W J O'Connor	60
9	(2)	222332	SPRING ANCHOR 31 (M Arbib) P Cole 3-8-13	R Hughes	108
10	(6)	3	WAVE OF OPTIMISM 30 (Wave of Optimism Partnership) J Pearce 3-8-13	R Price	34
11	(3)	000	DAUNTING 36 (Hesmonds Stud) Lady Herries 3-8-8	A Clark	37
12	(5)	04	MEDICINE BALL 14 (Newis & Co Ltd) T Watson 3-8-8	Joanna Badger (7)	–
13	(11)	0000	STREAKER 10 (M Kentish) E Wheeler 3-8-8	T Sprake	–
14	(13)	05-666	SWEET SENORITA 12 (W Baird) M Madgwick 3-8-8	N Pollard (5)	34

BETTING: 7-4 Spring Anchor, 5-1 Golden Reprimand, 6-1 Agent Le Blanc, 7-1 Da Boss, 10-1 others.

1997: AWESOME WELLS 3-8-13 K Fallon (evens fav) H Cecil 10 ran

FORM FOCUS Kanawa 7½l 11th of 15 to Cherokee Flight in handicap at Chepstow (1m 2f 36yd, good to firm). Agent Le Blanc ¾l 2nd of 9 to The Gambolier in maiden auction stakes at Leicester (1m 1f 218yd, good to firm). Da Boss 8½l 7th of 18 to Sunstreak in 3yo handicap at Nottingham (1m 54yd, good). Spring Anchor 1l 2nd of 8 to Flow By in handicap at Haydock (1m 6f, good). Wave Of Optimism 7¾l 3rd of 4 to Pendant in maiden stakes at Yarmouth (1m 3f 101yd, good to firm). Medicine Ball 3¼l 4th of 7 to Honeybird in maiden auction at Lingfield (1m 1f, good to firm).

SPRING ANCHOR makes plenty of appeal against some limited rivals

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rns	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Mrs A Perrett	4	15	26.7	R Hills	16	84	19.0
L Cumani	8	33	24.2	R Cochrane	68	394	17.3
M Prescott	24	103	23.3	A Nicholls	3	20	15.0
D Nicholls	13	64	20.3	N Pollard	6	40	15.0
Lady Herries	10	50	20.0	R Ffrench	16	118	13.6
Lord Huntingdon	45	226	19.9	J Tate	14	115	12.2

LEICESTER

THUNDERER

2.10 Sena Desert. 2.40 Little Henry. 3.10 Krisamba. 3.40 Andalish. 4.10 Cutzean. 4.40 Ya Malak. 5.10 Ron's Round. 5.40 Deal Fair.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) — SIS
DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

2.10 EBF FILBERT MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,948: 1m 8yd) (13 runners)

1	(12)		ABLA E Dunlop 8-11	K Fallon	–
2	(4)		ASHBOURNE PAT J Pearce 8-11	G Bardwell	–
3	(10)	0350	CAERDYDD FACH 12 K Wingrove 8-11	R Mullen (3)	41
4	(9)	00	CHEEKY MONKEY 36 J Noseda 8-11	J Quinn	35
5	(2)		COMIC J Gosden 8-11	G Hind	–
6	(1)	3	DION DEE 20 A Jarvis 8-11	D Sweeney	56
7	(11)	03	MAY I SAY 29 (BF) P Harris 8-11	J Reid	48
8	(3)		NAJM AL BAHAR D Loder 8-11	L Dettori	–
9	(8)	6	QUEEN TITANIA 23 A McHae 8-11	F Lynch	34
10	(6)	35	RAHAYEB 31 J Dunlop 8-11	G Carter	63
11	(13)		RIVENDELL Mrs N Macauley 8-11	J F Egan	–
12	(7)	0	SENA DESERT 11 C Brittain 8-11	T Quinn	45
13	(5)		THRIFTY M Ryan 8-11	P McCabe	–

11-10 Najm Al Bahar, 5-1 Comic, 7-1 Rahayeb, 8-1 May I Say, 10-1 Abla, Dion Dee, 16-1 Cheeky Monkey, 20-1 others.

2.40 RANCLIFFE NURSERY SELLING HANDICAP
(2-Y-O: £2,080: 1m 8yd) (20)

1	(14)	500	LA TACHE 29 G Bravery 9-7	M Hills	29
2	(9)	60R	RUANBEG 13 (C,G) C Dwyer 9-6	J Gotobed (7)	50
3	(3)	0000	ROBERGERIE 12 (V) M Channon 9-0	T Quinn	29
4	(16)	4140	EN GRISAILLE 17 (F) M Fretcon 9-0	S Sanders	33
5	(12)	0103	MARCH PARTY 17 J Portman 9-13	J Reid	37
6	(20)	U30	MILLIONFORMERTHYR 3 (B) B Palling 8-13	G Faulkner (3)	43
7	(5)	5000	COUNTY TIMES 6 (B) B Rothwell 8-12	W Supple	47
8	(5)	4406	LADY JANE 29 W Muir 8-12	G Carter	41
9	(10)	3600	LITTLE HENRY 6 (B) P Evans 8-10	J F Egan	42
10	(2)	2562	MISS CODY 8 (B) T Easterby 8-9	K Fallon	35
11	(17)	0030	MALCHIK 12 P Howling 8-8	M Roberts	31
12	(1)	2060	DYNAMIC DANCER 12 J J O'Neill 8-8	G Bardwell	44
13	(6)	650	CANYOUHEARME 12 N Callaghan 8-7	S Whitworth	32
14	(19)	440	STUTTON GAL 27 J Wharton 8-6	A McCarthy (3)	32
15	(4)	0004	TARA 11 K Ivory 8-6	F Norton	16
16	(13)	0050	LADY IONA 22 M Wane 8-5	D Sweeney	41
17	(7)	0604	CAROUSAL 10 (BF) R Hannon 8-4	Dane O'Neill	27
18	(11)	0030	BAY OF BENGAL 15 H Alexander 8-3	J McAuley (7)	37
19	(8)	000	STEVE'S HOT 27 M Jarvis 7-13	J Quinn	–
20	(18)	000	WINDSTORM 19 H Morrison 7-10	C Rutter	22

5-1 Miss Cody, 7-1 Millionformerthyr, 8-1 En Grisaille, Dynamic Dancer, 10-1 Canyouhearme, Carousal, 12-1 Robergerie, March Party, 14-1 others.

3.10 WYMESWOLD HANDICAP (£3,561: 7f) (20)

1	(15)	6601	KASS ALHAWA 10 (D,F,G,S) D Chapman 5-9-12	K Fallon	78
2	(8)	3035	SUMMER QUEEN 60 (D,G) S Woods 4-9-11	R Mullen (3)	76
3	(4)	-540	DANCING WOLF 11 A McHae 3-9-10	F Lynch	72
4	(13)	0000	JULIES JEWEL 5 (D,S) M Chapman 3-9-9	T Wilson	76
5	(16)	3602	CAVERSFIELD 14 (CD,F,G) R Hannon 3-9-7	Dane O'Neill	82
6	(19)	0000	ARIAN DA 10 (F) B Palling 3-9-7	G Faulkner (3)	80
7	(6)	0630	ROBELLION 26 (D,F,G) Mrs L Stubbs 7-9-5	G Carter	82
8	(3)	5552	PALO BLANCO 13 (F,G,S) M Ryan 7-9-5	P McCabe	85
9	(14)	5101	KING UNO 14 (F,G,S) E Alston 4-9-4	W Supple	78
10	(2)	2360	PIP'S ADDITION 3 (D) J Glover 3-9-2	S D Williams	77
11	(18)	3052	KRISAMBA 6 (B) B Meehan 3-9-1	M Tebbutt	89
12	(5)	2010	CELANDINE 25 (D,F) A Turnell 5-9-1	D Williams (7)	77
13	(12)	05-0	MR SPEAKER 235J (F) C Wall 5-9-0	J Reid	73
14	(11)	2000	KING OF DANCE 33 B Rothwell 3-8-13	M Roberts	61
15	(17)	0003	DELCIANA 6 P Harris 3-8-11	T Quinn	73
16	(1)	0035	NKAPEN ROCKS 10 (F) Mr G Rees 5-8-9	F Norton	60
17	(9)	4001	CRITICAL AIR 12 (D,G) M Prescott 3-8-9	S Sanders	80
18	(10)	5020	TAYOVULLIN 4 (D,G) H Morrison 4-8-9	C Rutter	69
19	(20)	0-00	SILVER SEA 32 I Balding 3-8-8	S Whitworth	50
20	(7)	4003	PETITE DANSEUSE 4 (CD,F,G) D Chapman 4-8-8	J Quinn	86

6-1 Critical Air, 7-1 Caversfield, 8-1 Kass Alhawa, King Uno, Krisamba, 10-1 Palo Blanco, 12-1 Summer Queen, Dancing Wolf, 14-1 others.

3.40 LEICESTERSHIRE MAIDEN STAKES
(£4,208: 1m 1f 218yd) (17)

1	(9)	05	ROLLING PATCH 17 E Alston 4-9-2	W Supple	45
2	(2)	0-00	COLLEGE MOUNT 20 Mrs S Lamyman 3-9-0	A Polli (5)	–
3	(8)	-323	GLEAMING HILL 73 Sir M Stoute 3-9-0	J Reid	89
4	(10)	3	NOBLE CYRANO 34 G Wragg 3-9-0	M Roberts	54
5	(14)	5-4	RAYIK 10 R Armstrong 3-9-0	M Tebbutt	68
6	(1)	0	SUPER-GEM 33 D Cosgrove 3-9-0	G Carter	32
7	(3)	0d4-	WINTERTIME 320 Miss E Lavelle 3-9-0	F Norton	75
8	(11)	-522	ANDALISH 17 B Hills 3-8-9	K Fallon	93
9	(16)	35	BORGIA 18 R Charlton 3-8-9	B Smith (7)	76
10	(15)	60	DANCING MELODY 17 J Spearing 3-8-9	F Lynch	–
11	(4)	33	HARBIYA 25 B Hanbury 3-8-9	Dane O'Neill	26
12	(13)		HIGHEST ACCOLADE J Gosden 3-8-9	L Dettori	–
13	(5)	0320	MISS FARA 32 M Pipe 3-8-9	M Henry	75
14	(6)	0	MISS RIVIERA STAR 18 G Wragg 3-8-9	M Hills	55
15	(17)	30	OPERETTA 73 I Williams 3-8-9	G Hind	48
16	(7)	6	SPARE SET 17 M Meagher 3-8-9	P Fessey	28
17	(12)	5	WATCHING BRIEF 17 B Hanbury 3-8-9	S Sanders	–

3-1 Andalish, 7-2 Gleaming Hill, 6-1 Rayik, 7-1 Borgia, 8-1 Miss Fara, 10-1 others.

4.10 REMPSTONE MAIDEN STAKES
(Div I: 2-Y-O: £3,428: 7f) (15)

1	(9)	0	ADELPHI BOY 7 M Chapman 9-0	T Wilson	34
2	(14)	0	CICEROADVERTISING 19 M Pipe 9-0	W Supple	–
3	(8)		CULZEAN R Hannon 9-0	Dane O'Neill	–
4	(2)	40	FIRST HUSSAR 10 P Howling 9-0	S Whitworth	59
5	(13)		FORT WILLIAM Sir M Stoute 9-0	J Reid	–
6	(4)	0	GRINLING GIBBONS 27 J Dunlop 9-0	G Carter	–
7	(5)		INDIAN LODGE Mrs A Perrett 9-0	S Sanders	–
8	(3)		KEEN HANDS Mrs N Macauley 9-0	J F Egan	–
9	(1)		KINGRHUMBA J Noseda 9-0	G Hind	–
10	(6)	0	LOUGHANLEA 137 M Jarvis 9-0	J Quinn	19
11	(15)	0	LOVER'S LEAP 62 H Candy 9-0	C Rutter	25
12	(7)		SLUMBERING B Meehan 9-0	M Tebbutt	–
13	(12)		SUAVE FRANKIE S C Williams 9-0	F Lynch	–
14	(11)	50	CASTARA BEACH 12 N Callaghan 8-9	K Fallon	53
15	(10)	0	PALVIC LADY 41 C Smith 8-9	M Henry	25

2-1 Fort William, 9-2 Grinling Gibbons, 5-1 Culzean, 8-1 Kingrhumba, 10-1 others.

4.40 PRESTWOLD STAKES (£4,912: 5f 2yd) (10)

1	(6)	5003	YA MALAK 46 (D,F,G,S) D Nicholls 7-8-11	Alex Greaves	56
2	(2)	3002	ALMATY 10 (D,F,G,S) W Muir 5-8-5	Dane O'Neill	122
3	(5)	0/5-	DELEGATE 537 (S) J Banks 5-8-5	G Faulkner (3)	–
4	(9)	0200	EASYCALL 19 (CD,F,G,S) B Meehan 4-8-5	M Tebbutt	112
5	(10)	20-0	REFERENDUM 21 (S) G Lewis 4-8-5	N Day	86
6	(4)	214-	DILIGENCE 448 (D,S) P Cole 3-3-4	T Quinn	–
7	(8)	1354	ETTRICK 8 (D,G) Mrs B Waring 3-8-4	C Rutter	–
8	(7)	6000	AURIGNY 8 (D,F) S Dow 3-7-13	J F Egan	131
9	(1)	0640	HAPPY DAYS AGAIN 29 J Wharton 3-7-13	A McCarthy (3)	91
10	(3)	3320	THANKSGIVING 40 (D,G) D Chappell 3-7-13	J Quinn	126

5-2 Easycall, 3-1 Almaty, 7-2 Ya Malak, 7-1 Thanksgiving, 10-1 others.

5.10 STAG APPRENTICES HANDICAP
(£3,095: 1m 1f 218yd) (17)

1	(16)	2626	FLETCHER 20 (F) H Morrison 4-10-0	D Richardson (5)	77
2	(5)	0050	STONE RIDGE 10 (D,F,G,S) R Hannon 6-9-9	P Dobbs (3)	87
3	(2)	1406	GRAND MUSICA 18 (B,F,G) I Balding 5-9-3	Leanne Masterton (5)	83
4	(1)	3214	GUESSTIMATION 8 (BF,D,F,G,S) J Pearce 9-9-0	A Polli	77
5	(3)	-000	KARINSKA 7 (D,F,G,S) M Chapman 8-6-11	S Carson (3)	67
6	(12)	0015	FLAG FEN 17 (D,S) H Collingridge 7-8-10	R Studholme (3)	84
7	(11)	1152	RON'S ROUND 8 (BF,D,S) M Pipe 4-8-8	G Faulkner	86
8	(6)	0080	ACADEMY 22 (F) A Turnell 3-8-5	D Williams (5)	77
9	(14)	4341	MEILLEUR 27 (V,S) Lady Herries 4-8-5	G Arnolda (5)	88
10	(15)	6563	JOHNNIE THE JOKER 183 (G) J Leigh 7-8-1	L Newman (7)	84
11	(10)	6060	TOPAZ 20 H Collingridge 3-8-0	S Righton (3)	55
12	(8)	65-0	JEAN PIERRE 33 J Pearce 5-7-10	R Brisland (5)	–
13	(13)	5502	BROOKHOUSE LADY B I Williams 3-7-10	J McAdey (5)	80
14	(4)	4501	WELSH MOUNTAIN 36 (F,S) K Morgan 5-7-10	A McCarthy	76
15	(9)	1203	SEA SPOUSE 17 (S) M Blanshard 7-7-10	R Mullen	115
16	(7)	-040	JUBRAN 22 (D,F,G) Mrs A Naughton 12-7-10	P Fessey	66
17	(17)	0005	DOWN THE YARD 10J (F) M Chapman 5-7-10	J Fowle (3)	63

5-1 Ron's Round, 6-1 Flag Fen, 7-1 Meilleur, 8-1 Fletcher, 10-1 Stone Ridge, Academy, Welsh Mountain, 12-1 others.

5.40 REMPSTONE MAIDEN STAKES
(Div II: 2-Y-O: £3,395: 7f 9yd) (14)

1	(10)	3	COOLING CASTLE 34 B Meehan 9-0	M Tebbutt	59
2	(2)		DEAL FAIR H Cecil 9-0	K Fallon	–
3	(12)		DOLLAR LAW P Cole 9-0	T Quinn	–
4	(13)		FRANK LEBOEUF A Stewart 9-0	M Roberts	–
5	(4)		GAME TUFTY J Pearce 9-0	G Bardwell	–
6	(3)	0	HIGH TATRA 13 S Woods 9-0	N Day	–
7	(14)		MUKHALIF D Loder 9-0	L Dettori	–
8	(8)		OH NO NOT HIM M Jarvis 9-0	J Quinn	–
9	(9)		ROYAL WAVE Sir M Stoute 9-0	J Reid	–
10	(7)	0	SWORD OF DAMOCLES 11 J Gosden 9-0	G Hind	42
11	(5)		TIME MILL J Hills 9-0	M Hills	–
12	(1)	44	WEE JIMMY 17 B McMahon 9-0	L Newton	44
13	(6)		ZANAY R Phillips 9-0	Dane O'Neill	–
14	(11)	0	CINNAMON LADY 73 D Morris 8-9	G Carter	–

9-4 Deal Fair, 3-1 Mukhalif, 4-1 Royal Wave, 7-1 Dollar Law, 8-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Leicester: 2.40 County Times. 5.10 Grand Musica, Meilleur. Lingfield Park: 3.00 Enchanted Isle, Sweet Compliance. 3.30 On The Black. 4.30 Santissima. Newcastle: 3.20 Baritone, Kwikpoint. 4.50 Desert Cat, Jack Flush.

NEWCASTLE

THUNDERER

2.20 Three Green Leaves. 2.50 Shirley Not. 3.20 Middle East. 3.50 Give An Inch. 4.20 Adulation. 4.50 Marske Machine.

GOING: GOOD — SIS
DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.20 BUCKNALL AUSTIN NOVICE AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,190: 1m 3yd) (7 runners)

1	2131	THREE GREEN LEAVES 50 (F) M Johnston 8-12	J Fanning	7
2	404	PETURA 46 J Wainwright 8-9	J Carroll	6
3	55	SILENT SOUND 29 P Calver 8-9	J Fortune	2
4	00	SWYNFORD LORD 17 J Hetherton 8-9	N Kennedy	3
5	2030	SAMSON'S LILLY 8 J J O'Neill 8-5	R Lappin	5
6	6	SANDERLING 24 J Dunlop 8-4	K Darley	4
7	4	SWYNFORD PLEASURE 76 J Hetherton 8-0	J Lowe	1

6-4 Sanderling, 2-1 Three Green Leaves, 5-1 Samson's Lilly, 7-1 others.

2.50 NORTHERN COMPUTER MARKETS NOVICE STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,436: 5f) (6)

1	2510	SHIRLEY NOT 20 (D,S) S Gollings 9-4	J Fortune	1
2	2123	CARTMEL PARK 39 (BF,D,G) J Berry 9-2	K Darley	5
3	00	CLAUDIUS 71 R Fahey 8-12	R Winston (3)	6
4	2330	BELLE OF HEARTS 10 M Peill 8-7	D Urbina	4
5	5	BERYL THE PERIL 148 N Bycroft 8-7	M Richardson	3
6		ROYAL PRINCESS Miss S Hall 8-7	N Connorton	2

4-5 Cartmel Park, 2-1 Shirley Not, 10-1 Belle Of Hearts, Claudius, 14-1 others.

3.20 KEITH PATTINSON ESTATE AGENTS HANDICAP (£2,516: 6f) (20)

1	0019	BILKO 17 (F,S) D Nicholls 4-9-12	M Richardson	11
2	2012	KNOTTY HILL 99 (D,S) R Craggs 6-9-9	C Teague (3)	13
3	1006	JUST TESTING 13 (F) J Eyre 3-9-9	R Lappin	19
4	0506	CHINAIDER 8 (D,F,G) D Nicholls 3-9-9	J Weaver	9
5	1110	SOAKED 70 (BF,D,F,G) D Chapman 5-9-6	A Culhane	3
6	5000	ERUPT 5 (D,G,S) M Brittain 5-9-6	D Mernagh (7)	7
7	4630	CUMBRIAN CADET 8 (B,F) T Easterby 3-9-5	K Darley	4
8	3200	TIME TO TANGO 17 (F) G M Moore 5-9-5	G Duffield	6
9	6120	SANS RIVALE 11 (G,S) J Eyre 3-9-3	C Lowther	8
10	50-3	MILL END QUEST 8 (G) M W Easterby 3-9-2	T Lucas	20
11	0040	KWIKPOINT 8J (B) M Todhunter 4-9-2	R Winston (3)	5
12	0000	PLUM FIRST 10 (D,F,S) J Wainwright 8-9-2	J Carroll	16
13	6005	MIDDLE EAST 23 (B,D,F,S) T Barron 5-9-1	J Fortune	18
14	0000	DISTANT KING 11 (F,G) G Kelly 5-9-0	P Goode (7)	17
15	6000	SKYERS FLYER 10 (CD,F,G) M Wane 4-8-13	R FitzPatrick (5)	2
16	6401	PATSY CULSYTH 28 (S) N Tinkler 3-8-11	Kim Tinkler	12
17	0500	MISTER WESTSOUND 27 (B,D,G) Miss Perratt 6-8-10	N Kennedy	1
18	0430	BARITONE 10 (V) S Kettlewell 4-8-10	Dean McKeown	14
19	0155	TOM TUN 11 (D) Miss J Craze 3-8-10	T Williams	10
20	0210	GUEST ENVOY 17 (D,S) C Allen 3-8-8	N Carlisle	15

13-2 Soaked, 7-1 Knotty Hill, 8-1 Mill End Quest, 10-1 Chinaider, 12-1 others.

3.50 CASTLE CASINO HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,534: 2m 19yd) (10)

1	1115	TARASHAAN 37 (BF,D,F,G,S) M Prescott 9-7	G Duffield	7
2	3114	NETTA RUFINA 12 (G) M Johnston 9-2	J Carroll	9
3	5351	GENEROUS WAYS 10 (F) E Dunlop 8-13	K Darley	8
4	6404	GENERAL MONCK 17 (B,S) B Hanbury 8-9	J Fortune	4
5	1203	ALDWYCH ARROW 12 (F,S) M Bell 8-7	C Carver (7)	10
6	0324	ALHESN 10 C Allen 7-13	N Carlisle	1
7	3403	BINT ST JAMES 25 J Bethell 7-11	L Charnock	3
8	4063	LEGEND OF LOVE 27 J Glover 7-10	J Lowe	6
9	1210	GIVE AN INCH 12 (BF,F,S) W Storey 7-10	N Kennedy	5
10	0010	LAST LAP 26 (B,D,S) T Easterby 7-10	D Mernagh (7)	2

3-1 Tarashaan, 5-1 Netta Rufina, 6-1 Generous Ways, Give An Inch, 8-1 others.

4.20 DUTTON FORSHAW (DURHAM) MAIDEN STAKES (£3,518: 1m) (12)

1	32	ADULATION 10 P Chapple-Hyam 4-9-5	J Fortune	1
2	00-0	DONNA'S DANCER 31 Mrs A Naughton 4-9-5	M Richardson	2
3	03-3	ANEMOS 158 M Jarvis 3-9-0	P Robinson	3
4		COUNTRY ORCHID 111J Mrs M Reveley 7-9-0	A Culhane	12
5		MISTER NOW THEN A Smith 3-9-0	R Winston (3)	9
6	0224	RAZOR 14 S C Williams 3-9-0	K Darley	6
7	8	RIGOLETTO 68 C Thornton 3-9-0	Dean McKeown	4
8	46	ROOSTER 8 Miss S Hall 3-9-0	N Connorton	8
9		BUCENTAURE M Wane 3-8-9	R Lappin	11
10	4	CHENNELL'S HILL 43 A Bailey 3-8-9	D Urbina	5
11		PERPETUAL TIARA J Bethell 3-8-9	G Duffield	10
12	0	ROMA 207 C Thornton 3-8-9	J Fanning	7

11-4 Anemos, 3-1 Razor, Adulation, 6-1 Rooster, Country Orchid, 10-1 others.

4.50 ST MODWEN HANDICAP (£3,113: 1m 1f) (20)

1	005/	BOLD AMUSEMENT 682 (F,G) W Cunningham 8-9-11	O Pears	3
2	0002	MOVING ARROW 10 (C,F,G,S) Miss S Hall 7-9-8	N Connorton	19
3	4010	BLACK WEASEL 17 (B,G) Miss J Craze 3-9-8	S Webster	16
4	1000	KNAVE'S ASH 8 (F,G) D Nicholls 7-9-6	C Lowther	1
5	0340	COURT EXPRESS 34 (F) J Jefferson 4-9-0	A Culhane	11
6	0344	MARCH HARE 32 J Dunlop 3-8-11	K Darley	4
7	2216	MARSKE MACHINE 8 (B,BF,F,G,S) N Tinkler 3-8-10	J Weaver	5
8	1001	PLEASANT DREAMS 7 (D,F,S) D Smith 3-8-10	R Winston (3)	7
9	1064	SWOOSH 34 (G) J Glover 3-8-9	J Fortune	20
10	3040	ROSA ROYALE 25 W Storey 4-8-7	J Fanning	15
11	1200	I'M TEF 145 T Easterby 3-8-7	L Charnock	12
12	-000	MONTE CAVO 5 (G,S) M Brittain 7-8-7	D Mernagh (7)	18
13	0000	KHATTAFF 5 (V) M Brittain 3-8-5	P Robinson	17
14	3536	SANDMOOR TARTAN 15 (F) T Easterby 3-8-5	G Parkin	9
15	4044	DESERT CAT 27 (V) M Wane 5-8-4	R Lappin	13
16	2000	THATCHED 6 (C,D,F,G) R Barr 8-8-4	N Kennedy	14
17	0000	RIBBLE ASSEMBLY 8 (V,S) K Ryan 3-5-4	T Lucas	10
18	4260	PETARA 5 (V,F) J Wainwright 3-8-4	J Carroll	2
19	0500	JACK FLUSH 10 (B,S) B Rothwell 4-8-1	G Duffield	6
20	5000	PERCY 34 J Hetherton 3-7-13	J Lowe	8

6-1 Marske Machine, 7-1 March Hare, 8-1 Moving Arrow, Swoosh, 10-1 Knave's Ash, 12-1 Court Express, Pleasant Dreams, Thatched, 14-1 others.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Bath

Going: good

2.00 (5f 11yd) 1, Brockton Saga (C Rutter, 9-1); 2, L'Agneau Noir (14-1); 3, Lady Beware (4-1 fav). 14 ran. NR: True Love Ways. 1½l, ½l. B Meehan. Tote: £19.80; £4.40, £5.70, £1.20. DF: £263.70. CSF: £119.12.

2.30 (1m 5yd) 1, In The Stocks (K Fallon, 5-1); 2, Madame Maxi (20-1); 3, My Legal Eagle (15-2); 4, Eiflel Tiger (40-1). Alcionado 7-2 fav. 18 ran. 2l, 1¾l. L Cottrell. Tote: £7.50; £1.70, £5.40, £1.40, £13.60. DF: £185.10. CSF: £102.27. Tricast: £722.10.

3.00 (1m 5yd) 1, Bathwick (J Reid, 8-1); 2, Joyeux Player (2-1 fav); 3, Autocrat (14-1); 4, Diablo Dancer (12-1). 16 ran. Nk, 2l. B Smart. Tote: £10.90; £1.50, £1.40, £2.90, £3.20. DF: £12.90. CSF: £21.63. Tricast: £231.14.

3.30 (1m 2f 144yd) 1, Key Academy (T Quinn, 5-2 fav); 2, Bullet (3-1); 3, Winter Pageant (4-1). 12 ran. 4l, 2l. C Horgan. Tote: £2.90; £1.30, £1.90, £1.80. DF: £4.90. CSF: £8.51.

4.00 (1m 5f 22yd) 1, Fields Of Omagh (S Whitworth, 12-1); 2, Saintly Thoughts (20-1); 3, Wild Colonial Boy (7-1). Snow Partridge 6-2 fav. 15 ran. 6l, ½l. I Balding. Tote: £14.60; £3.40, £4.30, £3.00. DF: £157.50. CSF: £225.44. Tricast: £1,077.71.

4.30 (5f 161yd) 1, Pursuit Of Gold (A Mackay, 5-1); 2, ...; 3, ... Dream ... 16 ran. ... Tote: £6.40; £1.60, £2.20 ... DF: £32.20. CSF: £46.12.

5.00 (5f 161yd) 1, Cauda Equina (T Quinn, 5-1 fav); 2, Hard To Figure (10-1); 3, White Emir (9-1); 4, Compradore (25-1). 18 ran. NR: Majalis. Sh hd, 1½l. M Channon. Tote: £4.50; £1.30, £2.60, £3.60, £4.60. DF: £17.10. CSF: £30.30. Tricast: £244.27.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £14,043.94 carried forward to Lingfield Park today).
Placepot: £89.40. Quadpot: £15.60.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Flag Fen (5.10 Leicester)

A sinus operation and change of stables appear to have revitalised Flag Fen. After a Newmarket win and a good effort at Ripon, he should appreciate today's drop in class and easier ground.

NB: Adulation (4.20 Newcastle)

Hamilton Park

Going: soft

2.15 (5f 4yd) 1, Wind In Winnipeg (J McAuley, 9-2); 2, Ladycake (9-2); 3, Snap Cracker (4-1 fav). 7 ran. 3l, ¾l. J Wainwright. Tote: £5.50; £2.60, £2.40. DF: £9.10. CSF: £21.52.

2.45 (5f 4yd) 1, La Doyenne (R Mullen, 7-1 jt-fav); 2, Dona Filipa (7-1 jt-fav); 3, Another Nightmare (40-1); 4, Somosomo (16-1). Captain Carat 7-1 jt-fav. 18 ran. 1¾l, hd. C Booth. Tote: £8.80; £2.90, £3.30, £6.50, £2.50. DF: £89.40. CSF: £50.51. Tricast: £1,779.56.

3.15 (1m 65yd) 1, Stolen Tear (D Holland, 8-15 fav); 2, Penang Pearl (5-1); 3, Romero (11-2). 8 ran. 4l, 1½l. M Johnston. Tote: £1.30; £1.10, £1.90, £2.00. DF: £2.60. CSF: £3.66.

3.45 (1m 65yd) 1, Wuxi Venture (G Duffield, 7-2 fav); 2, Trailblazer (8-1); 3, Future Prospect (14-1). 10 ran. Hd, ¾l. S Woods. Tote: £4.50; £2.00, £3.00, £6.70. DF: £28.00. Trifecta: £222.60. CSF: £28.41. Tricast: £324.68.

4.15 (1m 1f 36yd) 1, Portite Sophie (D Mernagh, 12-1); 2, Priolette (11-2); 3, Nobby Barnes (6-1). Celebration Cake 15-8 fav. 11 ran. 1l, 1¾l. M Brittain. Tote: £12.30; £3.10, £2.10, £2.20. DF: £35.00. CSF: £67.24.

4.45 (1m 4l 17yd) 1, Uniform (J McAuley, 7-1); 2, Falehalkhar (33-1); 3, Cultured King (20-1); 4, Northern Accord (5-1 fav). 18 ran. ¾l, ½l. Miss S Hall. Tote: £9.30; £2.40, £4.30, £4.50, £2.00. DF: £302.10. CSF: £219.46. Tricast: £4,037.15.

Placepot: £344.50. Quadpot: £48.90.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

LEICESTER: Trainers: D Loder, 7 winners from 24 runners, 29.2%; H Cecil, 21 from 76, 27.6%; M Stoute, 14 from 61, 23.0%; B Hanbury, 7 from 31, 22.6%; M Prescott, 9 from 44, 20.5%. Jockeys: L Dettori, 37 winners from 152 rides, 24.3%; K Fallon, 21 from 111, 18.9%; M Roberts, 16 from 94, 17.0%; J Reid, 15 from 115, 13.0%; Dane O'Neill, 11 from 91, 12.1%.

NEWCASTLE: Trainers: J Dunlop, 14 winners from 51 runners, 27.5%; M Bell, 12 from 45, 26.7%; E Dunlop, 3 from 14, 21.4%; M Prescott, 7 from 33, 21.2%; J Glover, 3 from 17, 17.6%. Jockeys: J Weaver, 28 winners from 162 rides, 17.3%; N Connorton, 6 from 43, 14.0%; K Darley, 30 from 221, 13.6%; G Duffield, 13 from 102, 12.7%; J Fortune, 22 from 177, 12.4%.

RACELINE
09066 168+ COMMENTARY RESULTS
LINGFIELD 101 201
LEICESTER 102 202
NEWCASTLE 103 203
IRISH 120 220
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The cat's whiskers: Sprite

7.45 tonight: kick-off in the £100,000 game

TONY HARRIS / PA



Dennis Bergkamp, who notched up 72 points in Fantasy League last year, in action against Chelsea last season. The sides meet again tomorrow

Fantasy League is here: point-scoring begins in earnest tonight, so if you haven't signed up yet you should get your entry in today so you don't miss out on this week's games

The big day is here: today the Fantasy League begins, and the points for your 11 players start clocking up. So if you haven't picked your team, have a look at the list (right) and get your entry in quick so that you do not miss the chance to score points in these early games.

As you know, *The Times* has teamed up with Fantasy League, the *original fantasy football game, to* give you the chance to pick your team and gain a share of £100,000. To win the top prize of £50,000 plus a trip to the European Cup final, simply pick 11 players from the list — **ONE** from each Premiership club.

THE GAME
You have a total budget of £50 *million to spend — and remember* you can only choose **ONE** player *per* club. Your team must be in a 4-4-2 formation, ie:
- one goalkeeper
- two full backs
- two centre backs
- four midfielders
- and two forwards

You can also have a team chosen at random. Simply tick the Lucky *Dip box on the entry form.*

THE SCORING
The system is easy:
A goal scored: 3 **points**
An assist (last pass to a scorer): 2 **points**
Goalkeeper or defender's appearance (for 45 minutes or more): **1 point**
Goalkeeper or defender clean sheet (including appearance point): 3 **points**
Goal conceded (applicable only to goalkeepers or defenders on the field): **minus 1 point**

ENTERING
You can still enter by post but the best way now is by telephone. Read the instructions below carefully then either call

0640 67 88 99

(+44 870 901 4209 outside the UK) or else post the coupon below today with your entry fee. You can enter as many teams as you wish, but each team must have a different name. The game begins tonight and your players accrue points from now until the end of the season.

SUPER LEAGUES
If you and some friends or colleagues want to get together and *form a league, this is a brilliant* way to play the game in an office, *school, pub or sports* club. A minimum of five teams can form a league, and the chairman must send in the entry forms together. All teams entered into a Super League will automatically be entered into the main Fantasy League. You will be posted a detailed monthly report showing how you *are all doing against* each other. If your office or club has not got their entry *in yet, they'd better hurry* to catch as many points from this week's games as possible.

THE START
Remember: you can enter Fantasy League at any time but only by entering today can you score points from the very *start of the main game — and the Youth League for* entrants under 18. All points are *reset to zero today after the* August's Warm-up game.

TRANSFERS
You are only allowed to use 12 transfers in the season. Until **noon today** only, you can make *unlimited transfers to strengthen* your team. Any transfers made *before noon will not affect your* allowance of 12 transfers for the season and will become effective for the start of the main Fantasy League competition which begins at 7.45 with Leeds against Southampton and Nottingham Forest against Everton. Transfers received after noon today will be deducted *from your allowance of* 12 for the season.

To make your transfers, call the 24-hour transfer hotline below and use your identification number (PIN).

Transfer Line: **0640 62 51 03** (ex-UK +44 870 901 4293).

Remember: the line closes at noon today for unlimited transfers. 0640 calls cost *60p/min. Ex-UK* calls charged at national rates.

For terms and conditions send a SAE to: Fantasy League, Competitions Dept. Level 4, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9DB.

Helpline: 01582 702720.

EASY CHECKLIST

Follow this simple step-by-step guide:

1. Select your 11 players from the list (right): one goalkeeper, 2 full backs, 2 centre backs, 4 midfielders, 2 forwards
2. Check you have no more than **ONE** player from any single club
3. Make sure the total value of your players does not exceed £50 million
4. Think of a name for your team
5. **Either** telephone your entry by dialling

0640 67 88 99

(Super League entries are by post only).

Or fill in the entry form on the opposite page (a slower method that will mean you miss early games)

6. You may enter as many teams as you wish.

PRIZES

£50,000 to the manager of the Fantasy League team with the most points at the end of the season. Plus a trip for two to the European Cup final
£10,000 to the runner-up
£5,000 for third place
£1,000 monthly prizes: eight prizes of £1,000, plus £100 of Puma sports equipment, will be awarded to the managers whose teams score the most points in a particular month
£500 weekly prizes: 36 prizes of £500, plus £100 of Puma sports equipment, await the managers whose teams score the most points in a particular week.
£1,000 youth prize: there is also a separate manager of the season Youth League prize of £1,000, plus monthly prizes of a Premiership football shirt
£3,000 additional cash prizes will be announced later in the season

PUMA

FANTASY LEAGUE FAXBACK SERVICE

To receive a comprehensive breakdown of your team's performance use our unique faxback service. The service will be updated by noon every Tuesday.

- Make sure you have your 10-digit PIN to hand when you call.
- Pick up the handset of your fax machine (if you do not have a handset then press the on-hook or telephone button instead) and dial 0991 123 720 (ex-UK +44 870 901 4280).
- Listen carefully to the instructions and press the appropriate buttons when asked.
- If you have any problems using this service call 0171-412 3795.

Calls cost £1 per minute (ex-UK numbers charged at national rates)

CHOOSE YOUR PLAYERS FROM HERE

Columns show: player code, name, club, Fantasy League points 97-98, Warm-up total, valuation (£m).
** means no longer in the Premiership*

GOALKEEPERS

102	David Seaman	ARS	28	6	3.7
146	Alex Manninger	ARS	15	0	3.4
139	Mark Bosnich	AST	13	6	3.2
140	Michael Oakes	AST	-5	0	2.9
108	John Filan	BLA	10	3	2.8
127	Tim Flowers	BLA	16	3	3.1
104	Sasa Ilic	CHA	-	11	2.3
105	Mike Salmon	CHA	-	0	2.2
137	Dmitri Kharine	CHE	-1	0	2.9
138	Ed De Goey	CHE	24	-1	3.2
107	Steve Ogrizovic	COV	6	0	2.4
117	Magnus Hedman	COV	16	3	2.6
103	Russell Hoult	DER	0	6	2.3
153	Mart Poom	DER	17	0	2.5
112	Paul Gerrard	EVE	-4	0	2.4
118	Thomas Myhre	EVE	7	2	2.6
113	Nigel Martyn	LEE	17	6	3.1
115	Mark Beeney	LEE	-1	0	2.8
123	Kasey Keller	LEI	26	4	2.9
124	Pegguy Arphexad	LEI	1	-2	2.6
122	Brad Friedel	LIV	-1	3	3.3
131	David James	LIV	23	0	3.3
116	Peter Schmeichel	MAN	46	2	4.0
121	Raimond Van Der Gouw	MAN	9	0	3.5
109	Mark Schwarzer	MID	-	1	2.7
110	Ben Roberts	MID	-	0	2.4
141	Shay Given	NEW	11	0	3.0
142	Lionel Perez	NEW	-	0	2.7
119	Dave Beasant	NOT	-	2	2.7
120	Mark Crossley	NOT	-	0	2.6
136	Kevin Pressman	SHE	-11	3	2.5
149	Matt Clarke	SHE	-4	0	2.2
147	Neil Moss	SOU	0	0	2.2
148	Paul Jones	SOU	3	-3	2.4
128	Ian Walker	TOT	-1	-4	2.8
155	Espen Baardsen	TOT	5	3	2.6
129	Craig Forrest	WES	10	0	2.5
130	Shaka Hislop	WES	3	9	2.7
133	Ludek Miklosko	WES	-10	0	2.4
132	Neil Sullivan	WIM	20	3	2.5
135	Paul Heald	WIM	0	0	2.3

FULL BACKS

203	Remi Garde	ARS	5	0	3.5
204	Lee Dixon	ARS	28	4	4.1
205	Nigel Winterburn	ARS	50	6	4.2
260	David Grondin	ARS	-	0	3.4
261	Nelson Vivas	ARS	-	0	3.7
201	Gary Charles	AST	8	9	3.4
209	Alan Wright	AST	19	6	3.7
211	Gary Croft	BLA	11	0	3.2
248	Callum Davidson	BLA	-3	6	3.1
262	Jeff Kenna	BLA	18	6	3.5
221	Chris Powell	CHA	19	9	2.7
240	Danny Mills	CHA	-	9	2.6
241	Mark Bowen	CHA	-	0	2.7
242	Steve Brown	CHA	-	4	2.5
243	Anthony Barness	CHA	-	0	2.5
210	Alberto Ferrer	CHE	-	-1	3.7
212	Graeme Le Saux	CHE	22	-1	4.0
215	Celestine Babayaro	CHE	12	2	3.5
216	Frank Sinclair	CHE	20	2	3.3
218	Steve Clarke*		23	0	3.3
217	Marcus Hall	COV	12	0	2.7
219	Roland Nilsson	COV	25	0	2.9
231	David Burrows	COV	24	3	2.9
245	Robert Jarni*		-	0	3.2
247	Ian Brightwell	COV	-	0	2.8
267	Marc Edworthy	COV	-22	0	2.9
220	Robert Kozluk	DER	-5	0	2.6
222	Gary Rowett*		28	0	3.0
223	Stefan Schnoor	DER	-	6	2.8
287	Steve Elliott	DER	5	0	2.6
249	John O'Kane	EVE	7	0	2.9
256	Tony Thomas	EVE	4	0	2.7
258	Michael Ball	EVE	-1	2	2.8
271	Alex Cleland	EVE	-	2	2.9
272	Terry Phelan	EVE	0	0	2.8
286	Mitch Ward	EVE	3	0	3.0
214	Danny Granville	LEE	6	0	3.5
224	Ian Harte	LEE	10	6	3.4
225	David Robertson	LEE	18	0	3.3
226	Gary Kelly	LEE	28	0	3.9
227	Lee Sharpe	LEE	0	1	3.6
235	Robert Ullathorne	LEI	-1	0	3.0
237	Robbie Savage	LEI	12	4	3.3
238	Steve Guppy	LEI	30	4	3.6
228	Jason McAteer	LIV	31	3	4.2
229	Steve Harkness	LIV	23	0	3.8
230	Rob Jones	LIV	-3	0	3.6
232	Stig Inge Bjornebye	LIV	23	0	3.8
250	Vegard Heggem	LIV	-	3	3.9
236	Denis Irwin	MAN	38	2	4.3
283	John Curtis	MAN	4	0	3.5
284	Philip Neville	MAN	44	0	4.3
285	Gary Neville	MAN	50	0	4.5
252	Curtis Fleming	MID	-	1	3.0
253	Vladimir Kinder	MID	-	0	3.0
254	Craig Harrison	MID	-	1	2.8
255	Dean Gordon	MID	-4	1	3.2
259	Gustavo Lombardi	MID	-	0	2.9
266	Robbie Stockdale	MID	-	3	2.8
244	Nolberto Solano	NEW	-	0	3.3
246	Andy Griffin	NEW	1	0	3.2
273	Steve Watson	NEW	18	0	3.4
274	Warren Barton	NEW	11	1	3.4
276	Laurent Charvet	NEW	9	0	3.3
280	Carl Serrant	NEW	-	-3	3.2
281	Alessandro Pistone	NEW	14	3	3.5
290	Des Lyttle	NOT	-	-1	2.9
291	Alan Rogers	NOT	-	2	3.0
292	Thierry Bonalair	NOT	-	2	3.1
202	Earl Barrett	SHE	2	0	2.8
268	Andy Hinchcliffe	SHE	9	6	3.2
269	Juan Cobian	SHE	-	1	2.8
279	Ian Nolan	SHE	-7	0	2.8
239	John Beresford	SOU	9	0	2.8
257	Lee Todd*		-6	0	2.5
263	Jason Dodd	SOU	17	-6	2.8
251	Clive Wilson	TOT	4	0	3.0
264	Stephen Carr	TOT	5	-1	3.1
265	Paolo Tramezzani	TOT	-	0	3.2
270	Justin Edinburgh	TOT	-7	0	2.9
206	Steve Potts	WES	6	0	3.0
208	Tim Breacker	WES	-2	0	2.9
233	Stan Lazaridis	WES	18	9	3.2
234	Andy Impey	WES	2	9	3.1
275	Duncan Jupp	WIM	1	0	2.6
277	Ben Thatcher	WIM	16	0	2.9
278	Alan Kimble	WIM	16	5	2.9
282	Kenny Cunningham	WIM	20	3	3.0

CENTRE BACKS

305	Steve Bould	ARS	18	3	3.8
307	Tony Adams	ARS	51	5	4.4
322	Martin Keown	ARS	24	8	4.1
337	Gilles Grimandi	ARS	18	0	3.6
347	Matthew Upson	ARS	5	0	3.4
301	Ugo Ehiogu	AST	16	3	3.7
303	Gareth Southgate	AST	16	6	3.6
304	Riccardo Scimeca	AST	0	3	3.3
329	Gareth Barry	AST	-	6	3.1
310	Colin Hendry*		18	0	3.5
353	Sebastien Perez	BLA	-	2	3.3
354	Darren Peacock	BLA	4	6	3.3
355	Stephane Henchoz	BLA	18	6	3.4
308	Richard Rufus	CHA	-	5	2.7
309	Eddie Youds	CHA	-	9	2.6
316	Phil Chapple*		-	0	2.5
318	Stuart Balmer	CHA	-	0	2.5
356	Bernard Lambourde	CHE	-2	0	3.4
365	Marcel Desailly	CHE	-	-1	3.8
366	Michael Duberry	CHE	18	0	3.5
370	Andy Myers	CHE	8	0	3.3
381	Frank Leboeuf	CHE	44	-1	4.2
357	Gary Breen	COV	19	3	3.0
379	Jean-Guy Wallemme	COV	-	3	3.0
384	Paul Williams	COV	-1	0	2.9
387	Richard Shaw	COV	12	3	2.8
388	Liam Daish	COV	0	0	2.8
311	Jacob Laursen	DER	11	4	2.9
312	Igor Stimac	DER	15	3	3.0
313	Rory Delap	DER	12	6	2.7
314	Horacio Angel Carbonari	DER	-	3	3.1
326	Christian Dailly	DER	5	3	3.0
306	Slaven Bilic	EVE	-2	0	3.1
323	David Unsworth	EVE	10	1	3.1
324	Dave Watson	EVE	0	0	2.9
325	Carl Tiler	EVE	15	2	3.0
327	Craig Short	EVE	8	2	2.9
328	Marco Materazzi	EVE	-	2	3.0
330	Lucas Radebe	LEE	15	6	3.5
331	Martin Hiden	LEE	1	6	3.4
380	David Wetherall	LEE	26	0	3.6
398	Robert Molenaar	LEE	14	6	3.4
334	Gerry Taggart	LEI	4	-1	3.2
335	Pontus Kaamark	LEI	34	0	3.3
336	Steve Walsh	LEI	30	2	3.3
338	Matt Elliott	LEI	53	3	3.9
389	Spencer Prior	LEI	24	1	3.1
302	Steve Staunton	LIV	17	5	4.1
320	Phil Babb	LIV	12	3	3.7
333	Mark Wright*		2	0	3.5
375	Dominic Matteo	LIV	16	0	3.6
399	Bjorn Tore Kvarme	LIV	20	0	3.5
321	Henning Berg	MAN	30	3	3.9
368	David May	MAN	9	0	3.9
382	Jaap Stam	MAN	-	0	4.5
383	Ronny Johnsen	MAN	33	2	4.1
339	Gary Pallister	MID	39	0	3.2
343	Gianluca Festa	MID	-	-2	3.1
344	Steve Vickers	MID	-	0	3.0
340	Stuart Pearce	NEW	12	0	3.2
341	Steve Howey	NEW	9	0	3.3
342	Nicos Dabizas	NEW	5	1	3.4
361	Philippe Albert	NEW	17	-3	3.5
350	Colin Cooper	NOT	-	0	3.2
351	Steve Chettle	NOT	-	2	3.0
352	Jon Olav Hjelde	NOT	-	1	2.9
358	Peter Atherton	SHE	11	6	2.9
359	Goce Sedloski	SHE	4	0	2.7
360	Des Walker	SHE	-11	3	2.8
362	Dejan Stefanovic*		-2	0	2.7
364	Jon Newsome	SHE	1	0	2.8
317	Ken Monkou	SOU	3	-1	2.7
385	Francis Benali	SOU	6	0	2.7
386	Richard Dryden	SOU	2	-6	2.5
391	Claus Lundekvam	SOU	1	-5	2.6
394	Scott Marshall	SOU	2	0	2.7
395	Scott Hiley	SOU	-	-8	2.5
346	Colin Calderwood	TOT	7	3	3.1
373	John Scales	TOT	-3	0	3.0
378	Sol Campbell	TOT	7	-1	3.3
396	Ramon Vega	TOT	14	0	3.4
315	Julian Dicks	WES	0	0	3.3
319	Ian Pearce	WES	4	6	3.1
363	Richard Hall	WES	0	0	2.9
367	Javier Margas	WES	-	3	3.2
369	Neil Ruddock	WES	-1	9	3.0
393	Rio Ferdinand	WES	0	9	3.2
372	Chris Perry	WIM	23	3	3.1
390	Brian McAllister	WIM	-6	0	2.8
392	Dean Blackwell	WIM	22	3	2.9

MIDFIELDERS

405	Emmanuel Petit	ARS	22	3	4.4
406	Marc Overmars	ARS	44	3	5.6
416	Ray Parlour	ARS	21	0	4.0
420	Patrick Vieira	ARS	16	0	4.1
425	Stephen Hughes	ARS	8	0	3.5
407	Mark Draper	AST	21	0	3.7
409	Simon Grayson	AST	4	0	3.3
410	Alan Thompson	AST	41	3	4.5
411	Fabio Ferraresi	AST	-	0	3.6
413	Lee Hendrie	AST	13	4	3.7
535	Ian Taylor	AST	24	2	3.8
415	Billy McKinlay	BLA	0	0	3.2
417	Jason Wilcox	BLA	20	0	4.0
419	Damien Duff	BLA	20	0	4.2
421	Jimmy Corbett	BLA	-	0	3.3
422	Tim Sherwood	BLA	21	0	4.1
575	Garry Flitcroft	BLA	10	2	3.3
501	Keith Jones	CHA	-	0	3.1
502	Mark Kinsella	CHA	-	0	3.5
504	Matt Holmes	CHA	-	0	3.2
505	Shaun Newton	CHA	-	0	3.3
506	John Robinson	CHA	-	3	3.2
507	Neil Redfearn	CHA	38	3	4.1
401	Mark Nicholls	CHE	11	0	3.3
404	Paul Hughes	CHE	4	0	3.1
429	Jody Morris	CHE	5	0	3.2
430	Roberto Di Matteo	CHE	26	0	4.4
434	Dan Petrescu	CHE	27	0	4.3
435	Eddie Newton	CHE	0	0	3.1
437	Gustavo Poyet	CHE	22	5	4.9
438	Brian Laudrup	CHE	-	0	5.8
439	Dennis Wise	CHE	17	2	3.8
465	Gary McAllister	COV	2	0	3.9
589	Paul Hall	COV	-	0	3.8
590	Paul Telfer	COV	19	0	3.5
591	Noel Whelan	COV	20	2	4.4
592	Trond Egil Soltvedt	COV	11	0	3.4
593	Willie Boland	COV	2	0	3.0
594	George Boateng	COV	3	0	3.3
595	Philippe Clement	COV	-	0	3.5
596	Gavin Strachan	COV	0	0	3.1
440	Darryl Powell	DER	0	0	3.2
442	Stefano Eranio	DER	19	0	3.8
443	Lee Carsley	DER	3	0	3.1
444	Francesco Baiano	DER	52	0	5.2
446	Jonathan Hunt	DER	5	0	3.4
479	Lars Bohinen	DER	14	2	3.6
403	Gareth Farrelly	EVE	5	0	3.2
414	Tony Grant	EVE	5	0	3.1
418	Danny Williamson	EVE	0	0	3.2
447	John Oster	EVE	5	0	3.4
448	Nick Barmby	EVE	22	0	4.8
449	Olivier Dacourt	EVE	-	0	3.6
450	John Collins	EVE	-	0	4.6
570	Don Hutchison	EVE	3	0	4.0
459	Harry Kewell	LEE	21	0	4.4
466	Lee Bowyer	LEE	19	3	3.9
480	Alf Inge Haaland	LEE	21	0	3.6
481	Bruno Ribeiro	LEE	19	0	3.8
482	Gunnar Halle	LEE	8	0	3.3
522	David Hopkin	LEE	7	0	3.7
452	Neil Lennon	LEI	12	0	3.5
454	Garry Parker	LEI	13	0	3.6
460	Muzzy Izzet	LEI	26	5	3.8
565	Theo Zagorakis	LEI	5	2	3.4
412	Jamie Carragher	LIV	0	0	3.3
467	Jamie Redknapp	LIV	15	0	4.2
468	Steve McManaman	LIV	51	2	5.5
469	Patrik Berger	LIV	11	3	4.4
487	Danny Murphy	LIV	4	0	3.7
490	Paul Ince	LIV	36	4	4.5
529	Oyvind Leonhardsen	LIV	26	0	4.3
483	Jesper Blomqvist	MAN	-	0	5.0
484	Nicky Butt	MAN	15	0	4.1
485	Ryan Giggs	MAN	46	0	5.6
486	Paul Scholes	MAN	34	0	5.5
491	Jordi Cruyff	MAN	0	0	3.8
492	David Beckham	MAN	61	5	5.9
509	Roy Keane	MAN	6	0	4.4
510	Neil Maddison	MID	3	0	3.1
511	Andy Townsend	MID	-	0	3.6
512	Robbie Mustoe	MID	-	0	3.4
514	Paul Gascoigne	MID	-	0	4.5
515	Paul Merson	MID	-	4	4.7
516	Alan Moore	MID	-	0	3.5
517	Phil Stamp	MID	-	0	3.4
461	George Georgiadis	NEW	-	0	3.9
462	David Batty	NEW	5	0	3.7
463	Stephen Glass	NEW	-	0	3.5
464	Gary Speed	NEW	28	0	4.3
473	John Barnes	NEW	20	0	3.6
489	Keith Gillespie	NEW	22	0	4.3
493	Garry Brady	NEW	-	0	3.3
494	Des Hamilton	NEW	2	0	3.3
495	Temuri Ketsbaia	NEW	17	0	3.8
496	Robert Lee	NEW	16	2	4.2
497	Dietmar Hamann	NEW	-	0	3.9
518	Nigel Quashie	NOT	-	0	3.8
519	Glyn Hodges	NOT	-	0	3.3
520	Chris Bart-Williams	NOT	-	0	3.6
521	Scott Gemmill	NOT	-	2	3.5
524	Geoff Thomas	NOT	-	5	3.5
525	Andy Johnson	NOT	-	0	3.7
526	Steve Stone	NOT	-	8	4.0
527	Ian Woan	NOT	-	0	3.8
528	Craig Armstrong	NOT	-	0	3.2
530	Andy Gray	NOT	-	0	3.4
537	Niclas Alexandersson	SHE	0	0	3.5
538	Petter Rudi	SHE	-2	0	3.6
539	Guy Whittingham	SHE	20	0	3.7
540	Graham Hyde	SHE	5	0	3.1
547	Wim Jonk	SHE	-	2	4.3
548	Jim Magilton	SHE	5	0	3.1
562	Benito Carbone	SHE	39	0	4.7
597	Emerson Thome	SHE	0	0	3.2
500	Stuart Ripley	SOU	26	2	3.9
536	Carlton Palmer	SOU	15	0	3.2
541	David Howells	SOU	0	0	3.2
542	Matthew Le Tissier	SOU	51	3	6.0
543	Wayne Bridge	SOU	-	0	3.0
557	Matthew Oakley	SOU	7	0	3.1
498	David Ginola	TOT	36	2	4.8
503	Ruel Fox	TOT	23	3	4.1
523	Andy Sinton	TOT	10	0	3.4
551	Stephen Clemence	TOT	2	0	3.2
553	Allan Nielsen	TOT	15	0	3.7
554	Jose Dominguez	TOT	8	0	3.5
555	Darren Anderton	TOT	2	0	4.6
564	Nicola Berti	TOT	15	0	3.7
568	Moussa Saib	TOT	5	2	3.6
436	John Moncur	WES	5	0	3.4
561	Eyal Berkovic	WES	45	0	4.8
576	Trevor Sinclair	WES	23	2	5.1
577	Steve Lomas	WES	14	0	3.3
578	Frank Lampard	WES	21	0	3.7
579	Marc Keller	WES	-	0	3.9
471	Mark Kennedy	WIM	2	0	3.8
559	Robbie Earle	WIM	13	3	4.1
560	Andy Roberts	WIM	7	0	3.3
563	Neal Ardley	WIM	10	0	3.4
580	Michael Hughes	WIM	20	5	3.5
586	Carl Hughes	WIM	5	0	3.3
587	Peter Fear	WIM	6	0	3.0

FORWARDS

601	Luis Boa Morte	ARS	0	0	5.4
602	Nicolas Anelka	ARS	30	0	8.0
606	Dennis Bergkamp	ARS	72	0	9.1
623	Christopher Wreh	ARS	11	0	5.8
645	Dwight Yorke	AST	40	0	8.3
646	Julian Joachim	AST	34	6	6.2
652	Stan Collymore	AST	30	2	8.0
647	Chris Sutton	BLA	70	0	8.4
691	Martin Dahlin	BLA	14	0	6.4
693	Kevin Gallacher	BLA	58	3	7.5
698	Kevin Davies	BLA	35	0	7.4
604	Clive Mendonca	CHA	-	11	6.5
605	Mark Bright	CHA	-	0	5.6
607	Steve Jones	CHA	-	0	5.0
608	Andy Hunt	CHA	-	0	5.5
636	Pierluigi Casiraghi	CHE	-	0	7.8
637	Tore Andre Flo	CHE	43	0	7.2
639	Gianluca Vialli	CHE	45	0	6.6
679	Gianfranco Zola	CHE	38	0	7.4
680	Darren Huckerby	COV	50	3	7.2
683	Dion Dublin	COV	74	5	7.9
612	Dean Sturridge	DER	37	0	6.6
625	Deon Burton	DER	17	0	5.3
684	Paulo Wanchope	DER	53	3	6.8
628	Danny Cadamarteri	EVE	16	0	5.3
673	John Spencer	EVE	2	0	6.0
674	Mickael Madar	EVE	22	0	6.2
702	Duncan Ferguson	EVE	47	0	7.5
661	Clyde Wijnhard	LEE	-	2	6.8
662	Jimmy F Hasselbaink	LEE	60	3	8.1
622	Emile Heskey	LEI	46	3	6.8
626	Tony Cottee	LEI	12	6	5.4
657	Ian Marshall	LEI	21	0	5.7
669	Graham Fenton	LEI	11	0	5.2
618	Karl-Heinz Riedle	LIV	20	5	7.7
619	Sean Dundee	LIV	-	0	7.0
620	Robbie Fowler	LIV	37	0	9.4
690	Michael Owen	LIV	80	14	10.5
640	Ole Gunnar Solskjaer	MAN	26	0	8.1
641	Andy Cole	MAN	60	0	8.7
649	Teddy Sheringham	MAN	49	3	7.5
610	Marco Branca	MID	-	0	7.0
611	Hamilton Ricard	MID	-	3	6.6
613	Mikkel Beck	MID	-	3	6.2
615	Alun Armstrong	MID	-	0	6.0
667	Andreas Andersson	NEW	6	3	6.7
668	Stephane Guivarc'h	NEW	-	3	7.7
670	Alan Shearer	NEW	10	2	10.1
630	Pierre Van Hooijdonk	NOT	-	0	7.8
634	Jean-Claude Darcheville	NOT	-	5	6.1
635	Dougie Freedman	NOT	0	0	6.3
663	Francesco Sanetti	SHE	3	0	5.9
664	Andy Booth	SHE	27	2	6.5
666	Paolo Di Canio	SHE	52	3	7.1
638	Mark Hughes	SOU	35	0	6.5
665	David Hirst	SOU	37	0	6.1
703	Egil Ostenstad	SOU	39	3	6.9
704	James Beattie	SOU	0	0	5.2
650	Chris Armstrong	TOT	15	0	7.1
658	Les Ferdinand	TOT	25	3	8.1
687	Steffen Iversen	TOT	0	0	6.4
603	Ian Wright	WES	36	3	7.8
614	John Hartson	WES	67	0	8.2
643	Samassi Abou	WES	23	0	5.6
644	Paul Kitson	WES	12	0	6.3
672	Carl Leaburn	WIM	18	0	5.5
681	Jason Euell	WIM	14	2	5.4
700	Marcus Gayle	WIM	10	2	5.8
701	Efan Ekoku	WIM	14	6	6.0
705	Carl Cort	WIM	16	0	5.3

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Have you chosen your dream XI?

Nick Szczepanik looks forward to tonight's Fantasy League kick-off and offers some shrewd hints for your team selection

It's time to forget the depression caused by the weekend's World Cup qualifying results and begin playing for the big prize — £50,000 and a trip for two to the European Cup final. Yes, the big kick-off in the 1998-99 Fantasy League has arrived.

Starting today, the players you have picked in your Fantasy League team begin to accrue the points which could net you a share of the total £100,000 prize money. As well as prizes for the winner, runner-up and third place, there are cash prizes for both monthly and weekly winners. So in any one week, a hot streak for players in your selection could win you £500 plus £100 of sports equipment; a longer run of form, and that monthly prize comes into range.

The August Warm-up competition is over (for a list of in-form players, see below); now for the real thing. Two full programmes of FA Carling Premiership matches in the next seven days kick off the competition proper, and there is plenty to whet the appetite. If you have yet to enter a team, where have you been? Who are the players who could make you £500 richer next Tuesday?

Home games against Charlton Athletic and Coventry City may give Manchester United a chance to improve on indifferent early-season form, but to net maximum points they must breach Charlton's hitherto impregnable defence: so, will Sasa Ilic, the Charlton goalkeeper, whose three shutouts were worth 11 points in the warm-up competition, be a better signing than Teddy Sheringham, the only United striker to score a Fantasy League point so far?

Nottingham Forest were widely tipped to struggle, yet tonight they could go to the top of the Premiership if they beat Everton at the City Ground, a far-from-impossible prospect. Steve Stone is back to fitness, and has outscored all other midfield players in the August Warm-up. If Forest fail and Leeds United beat Southampton at Elland Road, Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink and company will be looking down on the rest. Hasselbaink's contribution to the Leeds cause last season was worth 60 points, which is reflected in his valuation of £8.1 million, but could represent good value: Dwight Yorke, for example, scored only 40 points last season.

Speaking of Yorke, Aston Villa, his former club, are not doing too badly without him following his transfer to Old Trafford. Lee Hendrie, a snip at £3.7 million, has been given his chance in midfield by John Gregory, the manager, and has responded with valuable contributions. Villa play at home twice this week, against Newcastle and Wimbledon, and will consider both games winnable.

West Ham, too, have two home games, and have yet to concede a goal, giving four of their defenders a healthy nine points each so far. But on Saturday, their visitors will include a certain Michael Owen, the top scorer in the warm-up competition and worth 80 points last year — a clear case of the irresistible force against the immovable object. Speaking of which, Neil Ruddock, as a former Liverpool man, would take special pleasure in keeping Owen off the scoresheet. Many entrants will have Owen in their teams; they will just have to hope that Ruddock does not have him in his pocket on Saturday afternoon.

Whatever team you choose, good luck. The season starts here.





BEST WARM-UP TEAM

This was the best possible team from the Warm-up game that finished recently

Russell Hoult (DER)	6
Gary Charles (AST)	9
Andy Impey (WES)	9
Martin Keown (ARS)	8
Peter Atherton (SHE)	6
Steve Stone (NOT)	8
Nuzzy Izzet (LEI)	5
Gustavo Poyet (CHE)	5
Michael Hughes (WIM)	5
Michael Owen (LIV)	14
Clive Mendonca (CHA)	11
Cost: £49.0m	**Points:** 86

FANTASY PLAYER OF THE WEEK

ROSS KINNAIRD / ALLSPORT



Steve Stone was an England regular until suffering a serious injury two years ago. The highest-scoring midfield player in the August Fantasy League Warm-up competition, tonight Stone could help Nottingham Forest, pre-season relegation favourites, to the top of the Premiership

As I was saying . . .

It all starts for real today, then.

It certainly does. The pre-season friendlies are all played, and I've got a fair idea of the team I want . . .

Oh yes, speaking of pre-season friendlies, how did you do in the August Warm-up competition?

. . . my team's taking shape, and I'm only a piece or two short of the jig-saw puzzle . . .

But how did you do . . .

. . . I just need to decide on my fourth midfield player . . .

In other words, you did disastrously in the Warm-up.

I wouldn't exactly call it disastrous. And anyway, it's a well-known fact that the worse you do in pre-season, the better you do in the real thing.

A well-known fact, is it? So losing the Charity Shield 3-0 to Arsenal was all part of Manchester United's plan, was it?

It might be.

But where did *you* go wrong?

Well, like a lot of people, I underestimated Charlton Athletic. I thought about Clive Mendonca, but eventually I went for Andy Cole . . .

Did he actually score a goal in August?

I think you know the answer to that one. And I also overestimated Southampton. I remembered Paul Jones, their goalkeeper, playing very well at the beginning of last season. Unfortunately, Southampton have begun this season where they left off the last one and Jones was in goal when they lost 5-0 to Charlton. At least he was until he was sent off; so I had the small consolation that he wasn't on the pitch when Mendonca scored his three goals.

You couldn't have done worse, really, could you?

Couldn't I? How about deciding that Michael Owen would suffer a post-World Cup loss of form?

But I bet he was first on your list for your proper team.

Definitely. And looking at the scores from last season, I think it's best to spend the most money on forwards and goalscoring midfield players. Laudrup and Overmars will score me a netful of goals, but also provide a lot of assists.

Ah, assists. They will be very important. You need someone in your team who can take corners and free kicks.

Exactly; and I think I've got just the right man.

Beckham? Hinchcliffe? Ginola?

I'll admit I thought about Hinchcliffe — but in the end I went for Paul Telfer. Of Coventry.

Explain yourself.

Simple. I saw a Bolton v Coventry game last season when Coventry scored three goals from corners, and Telfer took them all. It makes sense; think about all those Dion Dublin headers from corner-kicks and crosses. And think about through passes for Darren Huckerby.

Hmm. You've thought about this, haven't you?

Well, there's a weekly prize this season, and I'm up for it in a big way. Plus you only have £50 million to spend, and you can only choose one player per club, so you have to look at some of the unfancied players as well as the continental stars.

Absolutely; they don't come cheap. And will they play a full season, these fragile, temperamental foreigners?

After he played in Glasgow, I don't think I need to worry about Laudrup. But I agree they're expensive.

Where will you be saving money, then?

I plan to double up in certain positions. Irwin at full-back takes penalties, so I'll get loads of points there, and he's a good crosser. Assists is my watchword. Matt Elliott scores goals from set-pieces, so he'll be good value.

Any of your stars of last season coming back for another go? Izzet? Babayaro?

Unfortunately there's the rule that you can only have one player per club. Otherwise I might have tried to get Magnus Hedman in goal and Pontus Kaamark at the back to go with Owen, my sole England international.

Swedes 2, Turnips 1?

Exactly.

Ten to watch this season





GOALKEEPERS
Peter Schmeichel (left) outscored the rest last season and may do so again, depending on the stability of Stam and company in front of him.
Kasey Keller (right), of Leicester City, has hinted about trying his luck in Europe and may be out to impress potential employers as much as he did Ronaldo, who described Keller's display for the United States against Brazil as the best he had seen.





FULL BACKS
Nigel Winterburn of Arsenal (left) shows few signs of losing his appetite for medals, or even the occasional spectacular goal.
Stan Lazaridis (right), once described by Harry Redknapp, his manager, as "not a full-back of any sort", is now a fixture on the left side of the West Ham defence, and his accurate crossing can be expected to provide plenty of assists.





CENTRE BACKS
Marcel Desailly (left) has not started his Chelsea career as well as expected, but even if he lives half-way up to his reputation as the best defender in the world, he deserves a place in your team.
Matt Elliott (right) was Leicester City's top goalscorer for much of last season, reflecting his heading power at set-pieces; but he is also part of a settled defence which gives little away.





MIDFIELDERS
While other Italian imports attracted more headlines, **Francesco Balano** (left) of Derby County was worth 52 points last season, contributing 12 goals to finish second top scorer.
Steve McManaman (right) has never scored as many goals as he should, but with Liverpool in good form, he can be confidently expected to provide assists for Riedle, Fowler and You-Know-Who.





FORWARDS
Yes, but apart from Michael Owen . . .
Chris Sutton (left) will take to the field to prove Glenn Hoddle wrong in every game this season and will be out to improve on last season's total of 18 Premiership goals and 70 Fantasy League points.
Dion Dublin (right) was left out of the England World Cup 22, but his headers will score and create goals for Coventry — and he can take penalties.

THE TIMES MAIN FANTASY LEAGUE ENTRY FORM

Submit your entry as soon as possible to maximise your point-scoring opportunities

FANTASY TEAM NAME (up to 16 characters)

LUCKY DIP If you wish to have your team selected by us at random, tick box ☐

CODE	GOALKEEPER NAME	CLUB (first 3 letters)	VALUE
			£ m
CODE	FULL-BACK NAME	CLUB (first 3 letters)	VALUE
			£ m
CODE	FULL-BACK NAME	CLUB (first 3 letters)	VALUE
			£ m
CODE	CENTRE-BACK NAME	CLUB (first 3 letters)	VALUE
			£ m
CODE	CENTRE-BACK NAME	CLUB (first 3 letters)	VALUE
			£ m
CODE	MIDFIELDER NAME	CLUB (first 3 letters)	VALUE
			£ m
CODE	MIDFIELDER NAME	CLUB (first 3 letters)	VALUE
			£ m
CODE	MIDFIELDER NAME	CLUB (first 3 letters)	VALUE
			£ m
CODE	MIDFIELDER NAME	CLUB (first 3 letters)	VALUE
			£ m
CODE	FORWARD NAME	CLUB (first 3 letters)	VALUE
			£ m
CODE	FORWARD NAME	CLUB (first 3 letters)	VALUE
			£ m

MAXIMUM OF ONE PLAYER PER PREMIERSHIP TEAM **TOTAL VALUE (MAX £50m)** £

I also wish to enter the **Youth League** (please tick) ☐
I was under 18 on August 15, 1998. Date of birth
I wish to enter the **Bloomberg City League** (please tick) ☐
Company name
First Name Surname
Address
Postcode Daytime tel
Cheque/PO no (payable to: Times Newspapers Ltd)
Credit card number: Expiry date: /
MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Name on card
Supply address of registered cardholder on separate sheet if different from above Signature

Send with £2.50 entry fee (£10 sterling for entrants outside the UK or RoI) to:
The Times Fantasy League, Abacus House, Dudley St, Luton, Beds LU1 1ZZ

1. On which days do you usually buy The Times? ☐ Monday ☐ Tuesday ☐ Wednesday ☐ Thursday ☐ Friday ☐ Saturday ☐ Don't usually buy The Times
2. Which other national daily newspaper(s) do you buy at least once a week?
3. Which Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy almost always (3-4 copies per month)?
4. Which Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy quite often (1-2 copies per month)?

If you do not wish to receive other offers from Times Newspapers Limited, please tick box ☐

HOW TO ENTER YOUR FANTASY LEAGUE TEAM

Select a team of 11 Premiership players from those listed right. The total value of your team must not exceed £50m and you cannot choose more than one player from the same Premiership club. Your team must be in a 4-4-2 formation with: one goalkeeper; two full-backs; two centre-backs; four midfielders; and two forwards.
TO ENTER BY POST Name your team on the entry form, left, in no more than 16 characters. Enter the correct three-digit player codes from the list, right, followed by the players' names. Enter the first three characters of each player's team under the heading CLUB, ie, LEE for Leeds. Also enter the value of each player shown on the list right. Add up the values of the 11 players in your team and make sure the total does not exceed £50m. Send your entry to the address shown, with a cheque/PO for £2.50 (£10 sterling outside UK or RoI) or your credit-card details. You will get confirmation of your team and your personal identity number (PIN) on receipt of your entry form. Readers under 18 should seek parental permission before entering. They must state their date of birth and indicate if they wish to enter our Youth League.
LUCKY DIP If you would like us to select a team at random for you, please tick the Lucky Dip box on the entry form. Postal entries only.
BLOOMBERG CITY LEAGUE Open to players with access to a Bloomberg terminal.
TO ENTER BY PHONE Call **0640 67 88 99** (+44 870 901 4209 outside the UK) using a touch-tone (DTMF) phone and when prompted tap in your 11 three-digit player codes. You will be asked to give the name of your team (no more than 16 characters). You will then be given a 10-digit PIN, make sure you write this down and keep it safe to be able to check your team's progress and make transfers. Calls last about seven minutes. 0640 calls are 60p per minute. Calls from outside the UK are charged at national rates. Calls from payphones cost approximately double.
TO FORM A SUPER LEAGUE You need at least five teams to form a Super League. The chairman must complete the form below and submit it with a valid fantasy league entry form for each team in the Super League, enclosing an entry fee of £5 per team (£10 sterling outside the UK or RoI) or credit-card details. Super League entries cannot be made by phone. The chairman will receive a monthly report on the league's progress

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THE TIMES SUPER LEAGUE ENTRY FORM

ONLY complete this form if you are entering five or more teams to form a Super League. This form is to be completed by the Super League chairman only

YOUR SUPER LEAGUE TITLE (up to 16 characters)

Total number of managers in your Super League ☐ (minimum five, there is no maximum)

DETAILS OF THE SUPER LEAGUE CHAIRMAN

First Name Surname
Address
Postcode Daytime tel
I enclose a cheque/PO, made payable to: **Times Newspapers Ltd** for £ ..... £5 for each team in your Super League which includes your £2.50 entry fee for the main league (£10 sterling for each team for entrants outside the UK or RoI)
Or please debit £ ..... from my credit card number: Expiry date: /
MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Name on card
Supply address of registered cardholder on separate sheet if different from above Signature

TEAMS ENTERED IN A SUPER LEAGUE ARE AUTOMATICALLY ENTERED INTO OUR MAIN LEAGUE

Send this form with a Fantasy League entry form for each manager in your Super League, including the chairman, with payment in ONE envelope to: The Times Fantasy League, Abacus House, Dudley St, Luton, Beds LU1 1ZZ

The car's whiskers: Sprite

FOOTBALL

Premiership powerless over United

By John Goodbody

FA CARLING Premiership clubs and football authorities will be forced to stand aside in any proposed takeover of Manchester United by BSkyB.

As the shockwaves reverberated round the national game yesterday, it was recognised that any action to stop the deal would have to come from outside football.

Peter Storrie, the managing director of West Ham United, said: "I am not sure that it is healthy for the game, but I don't know on what grounds we could object. The undertones are not good, with BSkyB having put so much money into football, but it is a plc matter and, as such, there doesn't seem much we can do about it. At the end of the day, United will still only have a



Leaver: League negotiator

twentieth of the votes on Premiership issues. You do wonder, though, what this is the start of?"

A spokesman for Liverpool said: "We cannot have any objection of any takeover by one plc of another." At Leicester City, another plc, a spokesman said: "We are not averse to the proposed deal per se. It is a negotiation that is taking place between two public companies. As far as a conflict of interests about television rights is concerned, the situation as we envisage it is that the structure would be unchanged, with United having one vote like everybody else. We are keeping an eye on it, but we do not have any objection."

There is nothing in the rules of the FA Premier League that would block the deal. Negotiations with television companies are conducted by Peter Leaver, the League's chief executive. There is then a vote by the 20 Premiership clubs.

In 1992, when the League, which was launched later in the year, negotiated a five-year deal with BSkyB, the clubs decided that Alan Sugar, the Tottenham Hotspur chairman, could take part, although, as the head of Amstrad, he had an interest in selling satellite dishes.

Keith Wiseman, the Football Association chairman, said the governing body was likely to stand back from any takeover. He told the Today programme on BBC Radio 4: "FA rules deal essentially with football matters. Matters of company law and so on will be for the Stock Exchange and Office of Fair Trading to resolve.

"Many large companies are involved in football already. This is just a very large one. I very much doubt whether the FA will have a view on the transaction itself."

He agreed there would be a conflict of interest if a television company owned the main club in the League with which it negotiated for television rights.

There were reports yesterday that should the deal go through, ticket prices and season tickets at Old Trafford would remain at the same level for five years.

United also said yesterday that the club had applied for planning permission for a £30 million extension to Old Trafford, increasing the stadium's capacity to 67,400 from its present limit of 55,000, which is always sold out for Premiership games. If permission is granted, work on extending the East and West stands would be completed by season 2001-2. The application also includes plans for offices and a new megastore.

At present, there are 42,000 season tickets, which cost a maximum of £380, with 10,000 tickets being sold from £14-£22 for individual matches. Usually, they are sold out five weeks ahead of games. The remaining 3,000 go to visiting fans.



ALLSPORT

TONY ADAMS insisted yesterday that the fuss over his and Glenn Hoddle's books should not have affected England's performance in Sweden on Saturday.

Alan Shearer, the England captain, had complained after the defeat in Stockholm: "All that stuff about the books that went on before the game didn't help and could have affected the players."

However, the Arsenal captain responded with an assurance that his own below-par performance in the 2-1 defeat had nothing to do with the prematch book furore. Speaking at the launch of his biography yesterday, Adams said: "If that is what Alan feels, you will have to speak to him on that. All I can say is that no words or article have ever affected the way I play. I go out there and try to play the best football that I can.

"You'll have to ask the other players if it affected them. I can speak only for myself and it didn't affect me. I was very sad because I don't like losing and we all take responsibility. As a team, we all have to look at ourselves and that is nothing new to me.

"It was never my intention to undermine Glenn Hoddle. There were a lot of reasons we lost in Sweden, but that is for me to sort out with the other lads on the training pitch at the next session — if I am included." Adam's book, *Addicted*, tells how he fought back from being an alcoholic to lead Arsenal to the League and FA Cup double last season.

Villa move for unhappy Merson

By Russell Kempson

ASTON VILLA have opened negotiations with Middlesbrough for the possible transfer, for a fee of about £6 million, of Paul Merson, the England striker. Merson was due to meet Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, to discuss his future yesterday but failed to turn up.

John Gregory, the Villa manager, needs to strengthen his forward line after losing Dwight Yorke to Manchester United last month and Savo Milosevic to Real Zaragoza, of Spain, during the summer. The £15.6 million made from the sales of these players, and Fernando Nelson, to FC Porto, is available for him to spend. Stan Collymore and Julian Joachim are the only senior forwards available to Gregory at the moment.

"There were reports that Paul Merson was going to sign for us today, but I don't know where they came from," Gregory said last night. "Nothing definite has been sorted out, but I can confirm that I have spoken to Bryan Robson about Paul's situation."

Merson, a late substitute in England's 2-1 defeat by Sweden in Stockholm on Saturday, only recently signed an extended five-year contract at the Riverside Stadium. However, the recovering alcoholic spoke last week of his concern about an alleged drinking and gambling culture among the Middlesbrough players. He felt that he might lapse into his old habits if he stayed at the club.

Robson and Keith Lamb, the Middlesbrough chief executive, had planned to meet Merson at the Hurworth training complex, but he did not appear. Steve Kutner, Merson's agent, went ahead with the discussions in his absence.

"I realise the fans are concerned, but I can't comment until I've spoken to Paul," Robson said. "We've talked briefly on the phone, but this has got to be sorted out at a meeting."

Merson declined to explain his non-appearance. "I haven't had a meeting with Bryan, but I'm not in a position to say anything else," he said.

Tottenham Hotspur, who dismissed Christian Gross, their manager, on Saturday, are also interested in signing Merson. David Pleat, the Tottenham director of football, has taken temporary charge at White Hart Lane and is believed to be considering an exchange deal for Merson involving Chris Armstrong.

Noel Whelan, the Coventry City striker, may miss the FA Carling Premiership match against Liverpool tomorrow night. Whelan was involved in an alleged disturbance at a party at the weekend and was taken to hospital with stomach and head injuries. A woman sustained a suspected broken arm in the incident and Whelan, after questioning by police, was released on bail.

Palmer ready for hard battle

By Russell Kempson

SOUTHAMPTON surpassed themselves in the FA Carling Premiership last season, finishing in twelfth place and avoiding their usual flirtation with relegation. Only at the start, when they lost their opening three games and won only one of their first nine, did they appear destined for another campaign of struggle.

A feeling of déjà vu hangs over The Dell, after successive defeats against Liverpool, Charlton Athletic and Nottingham Forest, and hopes of rapid improvement do not appear too rosy with away matches against Leeds United and Newcastle United on the immediate itinerary. A trip to Elland Road tonight, to play unbeaten Leeds, is not one to be relished.

For Carlton Palmer, though, the incentive could not be greater. He left Leeds a year ago, after falling out with George Graham, the Leeds manager, and has played a key role in Southampton's resurgence. As always, he is not shy of expressing his opinions.

"Leeds have made a steady start and the thing about George — like him or not, and I don't — you know what sort of team he produces," he said. "In our present state, it's perhaps not the best time for us to be facing them. Maybe some of us got a bit carried away after last season and certain things are not right at the moment."

David Jones, the Southampton manager, may give Neil Moss, the reserve goalkeeper, his first game in almost two years in preference to Paul Jones. Scott Marshall, a summer signing from Arsenal, could make his debut in defence.

Nottingham Forest will go top of the table, albeit probably temporarily, if they beat Everton at the City Ground. However, Dave Bassett, the manager, is unable to call on Ian Woan, Chris Bart-Williams and Jon Olav Hjelde because of injury.

Pierre van Hooijdonk who is still refusing to play for the club, has been told by Frank Rijkaard, the new Holland coach, that he will not play for his country while he is on strike.

Germany coach throws in his hand

By Rob Hughes

BERTI VOGTS, who coached Germany to win the 1996 European championship, resigned yesterday before his team had kicked a ball in defence of their title.

After returning from Malta, where his re-cast side had beaten Malta 2-1 and drawn 1-1 with Romania in preparatory matches, Vogts phoned the Deutsche Fussballbund president and asked to be relieved of his post "to preserve any remnants of dignity left to me."

Egidius Braun, Vogts's boss for eight years, then announced: "Humanely, it hurts incredibly to carry out this separation, but as DfB president I had to realise it became unavoidable."

Before Keith Wiseman, chairman of the Football Association, takes notes should Glenn Hoddle offer his resignation, it must be noted that Vogts, 51, and his president had previously defended one another faithfully. The "separation" has inescapable parallels with the English situation. Vogts returned to Frankfurt yesterday to unanimous newspaper ridicule. He was, correspondents wrote, a coach who had lost authority with his team, had lost the confidence of the nation and had attempted to impose a system that the players did not understand.

Ironically, the method that Vogts was trying to get away from, the 30-year-old libero and wing-back model that is as tried and trusted as the VW Beetle, is the very style Hoddle seeks for England.

Vogts, who made 100 appearances for his country as a terrier-like full back was a World Cup-winner as a player. He had been groomed to succeed as the coach but after failing at the 1994 World Cup and seeing his team beaten 3-0 by Croatia in France this year, he must have realised time was running out.

Unlike Vogts, Javier Clemente refuses to surrender his job as coach to Spain, despite humiliation in Cyprus at the weekend, but a 3-0 defeat by Poland proved to be the last straw for Hristo Bonev, of Bulgaria, who resigned yesterday.

Sheehan on Bridge

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

Match-pointed pairs is in many ways the most difficult form of the game. In rubber bridge and teams (IMPs), you won't go far wrong if you concentrate on making the contract as declarer, or beating the contract as defender. But at pairs overtricks are extremely important, so you are continually having to judge whether a hand is about success or failure of the contract, or about extra tricks. This example is from the 1998 EU Pairs Championship.

Dealer South **East-West game** **Pairs**

	♠K Q 9 ♥K 8 5 ♦A J 8 6 2 ♣J 4	
♠A 3 2 ♥A 10 4 2 ♦10 5 3 ♣6 3 2	N W E S	♠J 7 6 5 ♥Q 7 6 ♦9 7 4 ♣10 7 5
	♠10 8 4 ♥J 9 3 ♦K Q ♣A K Q 9 8	

Contract: Three No-Trumps by South. Lead: two of hearts.

South opened One No-Trump (15-17) and North raised to Three No-Trumps. Declarer played low from dummy on the heart lead, East won the queen and returned the seven. How should West defend?

At rubber bridge West would probably take the ace and play back a third heart, hoping declarer had only three, and would have to lose a diamond trick to East. The fact that East could not have a diamond trick unless South had opened a 15-17 No-Trump on 14 (the jack of spades, the jack of hearts, the king of diamonds, and ace-king-queen of clubs) would not deflect his attack.

But at pairs, West has to look more deeply into the situation. If South has made a standard opening bid, he is marked with king and queen of diamonds. So here the emphasis switches to holding down the overtricks. If declarer has five clubs headed by the ace-king-queen, he will have eleven tricks. So the ace of spades will go away unless West cashes it now. Only 11 of 35 defenders got this right, holding declarer to 430, for an 85% score. All the others allowed him to make 460, for a 34% score.

The EBU's National Swiss Teams, played in Leeds at the weekend, was won by Heather Maidment, David Hinkin, Mike Fithyan and Steve Preston. Second equal were Ian Sime, John McLaren, Derek Saunders, David Frew, along with Rolf Alexander, Peter Lee, Tony Cherrett, Margaret Lee.

Keene on Chess

By Raymond Keene
Chess correspondent

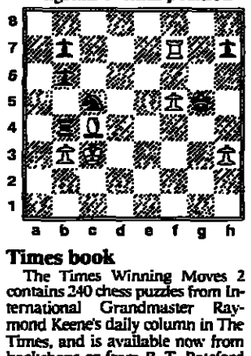
Polanica Zdroj

Today I conclude my coverage of the important tournament at Polanica Zdroj, in which FIDE world champion Anatoly Karpov suffered one of the worst tournament performances of his adult career, with a win by Vassily Ivanchuk against the grandmaster who was scheduled to play the world title match against Garry Kasparov later this year.

White: Vassily Ivanchuk
Black: Alexei Shirov
Polanica Zdroj 1998
English Opening

1 Nf3	Nf6	32 Kf2	Nb4
2 c4	g6	33 Re3	Rd2+
3 Nc3	d5	34 Re2	Rfd8
4 Qa4+	Bd7	35 Rf5	Kg7
5 Qb3	dxc4	36 g4	Nc2
6 Qxc4	Bg7	37 g5	fxg5
7 e4	0-0	38 Rxg5+	Kf6
8 e5	Ng4	39 Rge5	Re2+
9 d4	Nc6	40 Re2	Nb4
10 Bf4	Na5	41 Re5	Rd2+
11 Qe2	c5	42 Re2	Rd1
12 h3	cxd4	43 b3	Nd5
13 Nxd4	Nh6	44 Re4	Nc3
14 Rd1	Qb6	45 Re5	Rd4
15 Qd2	Nf5	46 Ke3	Rb4
16 Nxf5	Bxf5	47 Bc4	Nxa4
17 Nd5	Qd8	48 Re6+	Kg7
18 Qb4	Kh8	49 Kd4	Nc5
19 Nxe7	Qb6	50 Re7+	Kf6
20 Qxb6	axb6	51 Rf7+	Kg6
21 Nxf5	gxf5	52 f5+	Kg5
22 Bb5	Nc6	53 Kc3	Black resigns
23 a4	Bxe5		
24 Bxe5+	Nxe5		
25 Rd5	f6		
26 f4	Ng6		
27 0-0	Rad8		
28 Rxf5	Rd4		
29 g3	Ne7		
30 Rh5	Rdd8		
31 Rf3	Nd5		

Diagram of final position



Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from International Grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in The Times, and is available now from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01797 369966 at 6.99+p&p).

Berlin

Jonathan Parker, the British international master, scored a fine result in the recent Berlin international, sharing first prize with Michaeltz from the Ukraine on 7.5/9.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

Word-watching

By Philip Howard

WHIFFLER
a. A feather duster
b. A fife player
c. A long fizzy drink

MAGMA
a. A children's comic
b. A superior US degree
c. Molten rock

COLASCIONE
a. A stringed instrument
b. The first meal of the day
c. A gastric disorder

COCKAROUSE
a. The dawn chorus
b. An Alaskan glacier/river
c. An honorific

Answers on page 50

Winning move

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Dickinson - Anderton, Major Open, Torquay 1998. Can you spot Black's ingenious tactic which immediately decided the game in his favour?

Solution, page 50

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RUGBY UNION

Hosie sees light at the end of the tunnel

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THEIR statement may not have amounted to much, but the meeting yesterday of representatives from the Six Nations at Heathrow brought Allan Hosie greater satisfaction than he has enjoyed since he became chairman of the Six Nations committee last season. The former Scotland referee said: "We cannot lose sight of the importance of this meeting."

Hosie, frustrated at the absence of co-operation between the leading rugby-playing countries in the northern hemisphere, instigated the meeting and will expand on its significance at a press conference tomorrow. "It's the first time we have met round a table and it was extremely worthwhile," he said.

The presidents of the French, Irish and Italian unions joined the management board chairmen of England, Wales and Scotland,



Pugh: favours working party

together with Vernon Pugh, the chairman of the International Rugby Board (IRB), and Stephen Baines, his chief executive, in an all-day debate over the issues that have plagued the development of professional rugby in the northern hemisphere. Predictably, they announced a joint commitment to IRB regulations, the World Cup, the Six Nations Championship and the European Rugby Cup.

Yet these were not the main reasons for their coming together. Each country has specific playing problems that can best be handled in conjunction with each other rather than separately: at the head of that list is the structure of European competition and the formation of a British league to which England and Scotland are already committed and to which Pugh has added his weight.

Pugh left last night for the Commonwealth Games in Malaysia, but he is known to favour the formation of a working party on a British league instructed to report back within a month. Moreover, such apolitical individuals as Jonathan Davies, Robert Norster and Bill Beaumont are expected to be invited to sit on the working party.

Duncan Paterson, the chairman of the Scottish Rugby Union's executive committee, expects to attract private money once a league is established, which would embrace Scotland's new "super clubs", Glasgow Caledonians and Edinburgh Reivers. This season, their only fixtures of genuine significance are those against South Africa on November 10 and 17 respectively, but Paterson believes that a properly-competitive fixture list would attract the sort of investment that has gone into English first-division clubs.

"Nobody has been prepared to put serious money into Scottish domestic rugby before because there was none to be made," he said, "but, in the new set-up, with 20 home league, cup and tour games a year against big-name opponents, it becomes a very attractive proposition."

Paterson believes the detail of a British league could be put together over the next six months, even allowing for the disruption to domestic rugby next season caused by the 1999 World Cup.

Tom Kiernan, of Ireland, made a statement to the meeting about the European competition, which is now expected to run its course this season without England. The French remain unhappy about the formula and quality of competition, but, since the existing deal with French television virtually guarantees them their anticipated income of around £4 million, they are unlikely to rock the boat.

Wales have further domestic problems brewing. They had already taken their differences with Cardiff and Swansea to Heathrow with them, only to discover that they face a special general meeting on September 27 over the direction of youth rugby. The union seeks to make youth international rugby its own responsibility, rather than leaving it with the Welsh Youth Rugby Union, which has gathered the mandatory support to have the issue debated on a broader stage. At stake is the effective translation of the talent that Wales produce at schools and youth level to adult rugby.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Dean, the Staffordshire opener, drives the ball back past Diment on his way to a second-innings half-century at Dean Park yesterday

Staffordshire secure record

BOURNEMOUTH (final day of two): Staffordshire beat Dorset on faster scoring rate

BY MICHAEL AUSTIN

A RECORD tenth outright Minor Counties Championship title rewarded Staffordshire's command of an albeit drawn game. This was despite losing nine wickets, seven of them to Nigel Cowley, the off spinner, in adding 56 runs during an eventful finale to a rain-interrupted match.

Cowley finished with seven for 55, but Staffordshire won the game and the championship on a superior overall run rate of 2.94 per over, compared with Dorset's 1.84 in their meagre first innings of 92.

Richardson, still only 23 but with three years' experience on the Derbyshire staff, bowled fast-medium so effectively that he took four Dorset wickets for 14 in 47 balls and Potter, the former Leicestershire and Kent left-arm spinner, captured three without loss in ten balls.

Potter also scored a half-century in each innings and was the man of the match. He returned four for six in 7.5 overs, his final three victims all being taken at the wicket by Humphries, who held six catches in the innings.

Dorset collapsed so tamely to be dismissed at 2.11pm that their hopes of a first championship had all but disappeared in a match already destined to be drawn and decided on the scoring rate.

Staffordshire, having established a vastly superior rate, needed only to negotiate the final four hours and accumulate at a reasonable tempo to regain the trophy after a five-year gap. Devon having held it throughout the intervening seasons.

Staffordshire superimposed excellent fielding on their authoritative bowling and initially sturdy batting on an awkward pitch. Humphries set the standards, but Dean and Potter, his cohorts in the slips, held outstanding catches.

Potter shared an opening partnership of 111 with Dean in the Staffordshire second innings, making 52 from 86 balls. Dean scored 59 from 83 balls before Cowley, the former Hampshire bowler, struck with such regularity that Dorset remained buoyantly in the field, nurturing fond hopes almost to the end.

Derbyshire denied by Swanns in full song

BY IVO TENNANT

NORTHAMPTON (Derbyshire won toss): Northamptonshire 2nd XI beat Derbyshire 2nd XI by five wickets

THE Northamptonshire second XI, or rather the Swann brothers, were too strong for their Derbyshire counterparts in the final of the Aon Trophy. Graeme Swann made 46 and Alec, his elder brother, an unbeaten half-century in a victory achieved with two overs to spare.

The worth of this 50-overs competition is evident from the winners in 1992, 1993 and 1994 — the young players of Surrey, Leicestershire and Yorkshire have now matured sufficiently to be challenging for the first XI championship. The only person on either side who had been capped was Phillip DeFreitas, a former England all-rounder who had just taken part in the NatWest final and who was hardly a beneficiary of the Derbyshire youth policy. Should he have been included? Northamptonshire thought not.

Needless to say, DeFreitas was Derbyshire's top scorer. His 58 off 82 balls included a four and four sixes and, later, he opted to bowl off spin on this dry pitch. It was as well for his side that he did play, for nobody else played an innings to compare with those of the Swanns.

ROWING: HEAVYWEIGHT EIGHT REAP RICH REWARD FOR CHANGES IN SEATING POSITIONS

British lightweights extend world's best

FROM MIKE ROSEWELL IN COLOGNE

THE Great Britain men's lightweight four and heavyweight eight put in eye-catching performances on the second day of preliminary heats in the world championships yesterday. Both crews finished in second place in their heats and will have to face repechages, but the four exceeded expectations and the young eight more than lived up to them.

The four finished overlapping the world and Olympic champions, from Denmark. "I think we surprised not just the Danes, but the whole regatta," Jim McNiven, the experienced No 2 man in the crew, said. Under Len Robertson, their new coach, the crew knew that they had gained pace recently. "We have been dying to compete for over a fortnight," McNiven said.

Positions have been reshuffled in the eight since they competed in Lucerne and it is now stroked by Louis Attrill, from Imperial College. Martin McElroy, the coach, has often changed the seating positions in training — "but this combination appeared, seemed to work and we stuck with it," he said.

The eight had to win to progress directly to the final on Sunday and were marginally the quickest off the start. However, none of the five crews was able to break away until Germany, with Stefan Forster and Marc Weber, the 1998 Cambridge Blues, in the stern seats, edged ahead at 1,100 metres. Britain went with them and held on to finish inches ahead of Canada, giving them a marginally easier repechage tomorrow. Jürgen Grobler, the Britain chief coach, is hoping that this young Olympic development crew can go on to improve on the fourth place gained in the 1997 championships.

Eight other British crews entered the fray yesterday and although none managed a first place, two combinations — the women's lightweight double of Tracey Langlands and Jane Hall and the men's lightweight coxless pair of Nick Strange and Adam Gray — gained third places that were enough to qualify them for the semi-finals on Friday. The men's pair looked comfortable in third place, ahead of Japan and the United States, over the whole race, but Jane Hall, the stroke of the women's double, had to call on all her experience to move past Poland and Switzerland in the second 1,000 metres.

It was not a good day for other British women. Both the heavy and lightweight quads, beset by recent injuries, were off the pace and the women's eight, the 1997 bronze medal-winners, were disappointing. Drawn in lane No 1, they never really got into their race and finished fourth. They will have to raise their game for the repechage tomorrow and beat either Canada or Belarus, who were faster yesterday, to reach the final.

Seven British crews have their second chance in repechages today. Five of these — the scullers, Greg Searle, Peter Haining and Guin Batten, the coxless pair of Cath Bishop and Dot Blackie and the lightweight men's eight — have the pole lane No 3 as narrow losers on Sunday.

MOTOR RACING

Herbert to go from Sauber to Stewart

BY KEVIN EASON

JOHNNY HERBERT rescued his career in Formula One last night by signing a two-year contract to drive for the Stewart-Ford team. The British driver had been in danger of falling out of grand prix racing after his negotiations to stay with the Swiss Sauber team ran aground.

Herbert, who is one of the most popular drivers in Formula One, was in talks with Williams and Prost, but discovered that a seat was vacant for next season at the Stewart team after Jan Magnussen was dismissed and Jos Verstappen brought in as a temporary replacement.

Though Verstappen is well regarded, he is likely to leave to make way for Herbert. Jackie Stewart, the team's leader, believes that he needs the experience of Herbert, who has won two grands prix, to improve a car that has underperformed over the past two years. Herbert is known as a driver who can interpret technical problems in a way that engineers can use to improve performance.

No team needs that help more than Stewart. In spite of generous funding and having a former world champion as its chairman, its cars have laboured at the back of the field. Ford has committed around £50 million to supply engines, but has become disenchanted with Stewart's inability to provide results.

Rubens Barrichello, from Brazil, their No 1 driver, has been seeking a move, even to the point of trying to buy out his contract to go to Williams. Having Herbert alongside him might ease Barrichello's doubts and could provide a fast track for Stewart engineers to turn the team into one able to get on to the podium regularly.

For Herbert, the move means security. The 34-year-old was rapidly running out of options and seemed to be increasingly pressurised by Jean Alesi, his new team-mate at Sauber. The season has been a string of disappointments, with only a single point scored in the first race in Australia.

Herbert's move will also allow Heinz-Harald Frentzen to keep his career alive, moving from Williams to Sauber to replace Herbert.

IN BRIEF

Jacklin has a swipe at James

■ **GOLF:** Tony Jacklin, the former British and US Open champion, has criticised the appointment of Mark James as the Europe Ryder Cup captain, saying that his behaviour in the 1979 Ryder Cup should have barred him from the job.

In an interview in *Golf International* magazine, Jacklin said: "He and Ken [Brown] made it their business to sabotage any chances the team had." the United States won 17-11.

Tiger Woods will play in the World Match Play Championship next month, tournament organisers said yesterday.

■ **RUGBY LEAGUE: Jamie Mathiou, the Leeds Rhinos forward, will not face any disciplinary action for alleged racist remarks made to a St Helens player in the clubs' JJB Super League match at Headingley on Friday. The Rugby Football League declared the matter closed yesterday after studying a report from the referee and speaking to both clubs.**

■ **SNOOKER:** John Higgins, the world champion, and Stephen Hendry were both defeated by Chinese opponents in the opening round of matches in the Red Bull Super Challenge in Shenyang yesterday.

■ **CYCLING: Chris Boardman's Crédit Agricole squad won the team award in the third stage of the Tour of Spain from Cadiz to Estepona yesterday. Jann Kirsipuu, of Estonia, won the stage for Casino, while Laurent Jalabert, of France, riding for ONCE, took the overall lead.**

■ **MOTOR RACING:** Dario Franchitti, of Scotland, gained his second consecutive Indycar CART World Series victory on the streets of Vancouver.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket*

FA Carling Premiership
Leeds v Southampton (7.45)
Nottingham Forest v Everton (7.45)

Nationwide League
First division
Barnsley v Norwich (7.45)
Birmingham v Stockport (7.45)
Bury v Portsmouth (7.45)
* Crewe v Crystal Palace (7.45)
Huddersfield v Watford (7.45)
Ipswich v Bradford (7.45)
Port Vale v Wolverhampton (7.45)
Queens Park Rangers v Tranmere (7.45)
Sheffield Utd v Grimsby (7.45)
Sunderland v Bristol City (7.45)
West Bromwich v Bolton (7.45)

Second division
Blackpool v Notts County
Bristol Rovers v Chesterfield (7.45)
Fulham v Stoke (7.45)
Gillingham v Northampton (7.45)
Manchester City v Bournemouth (7.45)
Oldham v Macclesfield (7.45)
Walsall v York (7.45)
Wigan v Colchester (7.45)
Wrexham v Luton
Wycombe v Preston (7.45)

Third division
Cardiff v Barnet
Carlisle v Swansea (7.45)
Darlington v Hartlepool
Exeter v Brighton (7.45)
Hull v Rochdale
Leyton Orient v Mansfield (7.45)
Peterborough v Chester (7.45)
Rotherham v Plymouth (7.45)
Scunthorpe v Cambridge Utd
Southend v Halifax (7.45)
Torquay v Brentford (7.45)

Football Conference
Barrow v Morecambe (7.45)
Dover v Rushden and Diamonds (7.45)
Kettering v Cheltenham (7.45)
Welling v Yeovil (7.45)
Kingstonian v Stevenage (7.45)

Scottish League Cup
Quarter-finals
Ayr v Rangers (8.0)
Kilmarnock v Airdrie (7.45)
St Johnstone v Hibernian (7.45)

LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor City v Connah's Quay; Barry Town v Alan Lido; Holywell v Conwy; Newtown v Caernarfon.

FA CUP: Preliminary-round replays: Barwell v Shepshed Dynamos. Billingham Synthonia v Marske. Borrowash v Bridgnorth; Fisher London v Egham; Folkestone Invicta v Tonbridge Angels; Grays v Kingsbury; Hailsham v Farnham; Horsham v Chatham; London Colney v Hornchurch. Maine Road v Ramsbottom, Margate v Ashford; Sudbury Town v Stotold; Tilbury v Bury Town; Weston-super-Mare v Newport AFC.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bath City v Hastings, Bromsgrove v Kings Lynn; Cambridge City v Grantham, Dorchester v Crawley Gloucester v Weymouth; Halesowen v Boston; Weston v Tamworth; Merthyr v Worcester City; Nuneaton v Burton Albion, Rothwell v Gresley, Southern division: Andover v Havant and Waterlooville, Baldock v Corby; Newport IoW v Clevedon; Taunton Town v Bashley; Bradley Town, Witney v Fleet Town, Yate v Bashley. Midland division: Bilston v Paget R, Blakenall v Hinckley Utd, Evesham v Cinderford, Redditch v Bedworth, Stafford v Moor Green, Stourbridge v RC Warwick, Sutton Coldfield Town v Blowwich Town

UNIBOND LEAGUE Premier division: Altrincham v Lancaster; Frickley v Emley; Leigh Rmi v Colwyn Bay; Runcorn v Hyde; Stalybridge v Chorley; Whitby v Blyth Spartans, Winsford v Mannr Workscp v Spennymoor. Unibond Challenge Cup: First round: Accrington Stanley v Gretna, Alfreton v Eastwood Town, Bamber Bridge v Burscough; Droylsden v Flixton; Great Harwood v Netherfield Kendal, Harrogate Town v Farsley Celtic; Hucknall Town v Stocksbridge PS; Matlock Town v Lincoln United, Albion v Radcliffe.

RYMAN LEAGUE: Second division: Witham v Barking, Wivenhoe v Wokingham. Third division: Epsom and Ewell v Flackwell Heath Isthmian League Cup: Preliminary round: Abingdon Town v Slough, Aylesbury v Leyton Pennant; Barton Rovers v Camberley Town, Bognor Regis v Chesham; Boreham Wood v Enfield; Bromley v Tooting and Mitcham, Carshalton v Banstead, Chertsey v Chalfont St Peter; Croydon v Harlow; Dulwich Hamlet v Sutton United; Harrow v East Thurrock; Hemel Hempstead v Romford; Heybridge Swifts v Walton and Hersham; Hitchin v Aldershot Town, Leatherhead v Corinthian Casuals, Leighton Town v Uxbridge, Maidenhead v Lewes, Staines v Yeading, Wembley v Hampton Whyteleafe v Gravesend and Northfleet; Windsor and Eton v Hungerford, Worthing v Billericay.

NATIONWIDE GOLD CUP: Section A: Bangor v Colerane; Carrick v Cliftonville, Distillery v Ballymena. Section B: Ards v Omagh; Ballyclare v Glentoran; Dungannon Swifts v Crusaders, Larne v Portadown. Limavady Utd v Linfield; Newry v Glenavon.

AIRKOTT INSURANCE NORTH LGE: First division: South Shields v Tow Law, Stockton v Jarrow Roofing.

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Elmore v Bideford, Odd Down v Bristol Manor Farm, Paulton Rovers v Bishop Sutton, Westbury Utd v Melksham Town.

ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Coleshill v GPT (Coventry); Dudley Sports v Alvechurch, Massey Ferguson v Bolehall S, Southam v Atherstone

COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cobham v Sandhurst, Merstham v Chessington and Hook.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: BAT v Money Fields; Christchurch v Wimborne Town; Fareham v Brockenhurst, Gosport v Totton; Thatcham Town v Bemerton Heath Harlequins.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: East Preston v Broadbridge Heath; Redhill v Hassocks; Whitehawk v Eastbourne. John O'Hara League Cup First round: Langney Sports v Shelley.

NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE: First division: Atherton LR v Skelmersdale, Bootle v Mossley, Cheadle v Leek CSOB, Glossop North End v Nantwich Town; Newcastle Town v Prescot Cables; Rossendale v Workington, Vauxhall GM v Kidsgrove.

RUGBY UNION
Welsh National League
Premier division
Aberavon v Ebbw Vale (7.0)
Newport v Caerphilly (7.0)

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Charlton, Leicester, Bradford, Grimsby, Stockport, Wolves, York, Brighton, Cambridge, Celtic.

BEST DRAWS: Leicester, Bradford, Wolves, York, Brighton.

AWAYS: Leeds, Blackpool, Manchester City, Oldham, Hull.

HOMES: Aston Villa, Manchester United, Newcastle, Crystal Palace, Portsmouth, Burnley, Colchester, Preston, Chester.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Aston Villa, Newcastle, Crystal Palace, Colchester, Chester. Aways: Leeds, Manchester City, Oldham. Draws: Leicester, Wolves, Brighton.

Vince Wright

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday September 12

Coupon No. Inture forecast

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP
1 A Villa v Wimbledon 1
2 Charlton v Derby X
3 Chelsea v Nott'm F 1
4 Everton v Leeds 2
5 Leicester v Arsenal X
6 Man Utd v Coventry 1
7 Newcastle v South'pton 1
8 Sheff Wed v Blackburn 1
9 West Ham v Liverpool 1

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE
FIRST DIVISION
10 Bolton v Birmingham 1
11 Bradford v Sheff U X
12 *Bristol C v West Brom 2
13 C Palace v Port Vale 1
14 Grimsby v Barnsley X
15 Oxford v Ipswich 2
16 Portsmouth v Swindon 1
17 Stockport v Crewe X
18 Watford v QPR 1
19 Wolves v Sunderland X

SECOND DIVISION
20 Bourn'm'th v Wigan 1
21 Burnley v Wycombe 1
22 Chester'd v Walsall 2
23 Colch'st'r v Gillingham 1
24 Lincoln v Blackpool 2
25 Luton v Bristol R 1
26 Mans'fd'd v Man City 2
27 North'pton v Oldham 2
28 Notts Co v Fulham 2
29 Preston v Reading 1
30 Stoke v Millwall 1
31 York v Wrexham X

THIRD DIVISION
32 Barnet v Hull 2
33 Brentf'd v Rotherham 1
34 Brighton v Southend X
35 Camb'ge v Leyton O X
36 Chester v Torquay 1
37 Hartlepool v Exeter 1
38 Mansfield v Bristol C 2
39 Plymouth v Darlington 1

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE
40 Aberdeen v Moth'well 1
41 Celtic v Kilmarnock X
42 Dundee U v Rangers 2
43 Hearts v Dundee 1
44 St J'stone v Dund'ee 2

FIRST DIVISION
45 Airdrie v G Morton 1
46 Clydebank v Ayr 1
47 Raith v Falkirk 2
48 St Mirren v Hibernian 2
49 Stranraer v Hamilton 2

* Pools panel to adjudicate

FOR THE RECORD

CRICKET

Aon Trophy Final

Northamptonshire 2nd XI v Derbyshire 2nd XI

NORTHAMPTON: (Derbyshire won toss): Northamptonshire beat Derbyshire by five wickets

DERBYSHIRE
S D Stubbings c Roberts b Boswell . . 18
B L Spendlove c Bailey b Follett . . . 0
M E Cassar b Innes . . . 42
T A Tweats st Bailey b Davies . . . 27
I D Blackwell b Snape . . . 3
P A J DeFreitas c and b Snape . . . 58
M Roberts c Snape b Logan . . . 9
*†S Griffiths low b Logan . . . 1
S J Lacey not out . . . 6
T M Smith run out . . . 6
Extras (b 2, lb 15, w 3) . . . 20
Total (50 overs) . . . 199

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-22, 3-83, 4-91, 5-107, 6-155, 7-174, 8-183, 9-183

BOWLING: Boswell 7-1-28-1; Follett 9-0-30-1, Logan 10-1-24-2; Innes 6-0-30-1; Snape 6-0-37-2; Davies 10-0-33-2.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
D J Roberts c Stubbings b Roberts . . . 31
G P Swann b Lacey . . . 48
A J Swann not out . . . 57
T C Walton low b Cassar . . . 16
*† N Snape c Griffiths b Cassar . . . 1
K J Innes b Smith . . . 15
†T M B Bailey not out . . . 17
Extras (b 3, lb 7, w 7, nb 2) . . . 19
Total (5 wkts, 48 overs) . . . 203

R J Logan, M K Davies, S A J Boswell and D Follett did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-87, 2-88, 3-135, 4-137, 5-179

BOWLING: Smith 7-0-27-1; Clarke 10-1-36-0; Blackwell 8-0-32-0, Lacey 5-1-20-1, Roberts 8-0-35-1, DeFreitas 3-0-13-0; Cassar 8-0-30-2

Umpires: A Clarkson and T E Jesty.
Man of the Match: A J Swann

Minor Counties Championship play-off

Dorset v Staffordshire

DEAN PARK, BOURNEMOUTH (final day of two): Staffordshire beat Dorset by a higher run rate

STAFFORDSHIRE: First Innings 177 for 6 (L Potter 58)

Second Innings
L Potter c Diment b Pike . . . 52
*S J Dean c Richings b Cowley . . . 59
P E Wettings c Lamb b Cowley . . . 7
R Mills low b Cowley . . . 1
M V Steele c Shackleton b Cowley . . . 0
R P Harvey c Cowley b Pike . . . 0
†M I Humphries low b Cowley . . . 0
D R Womble c Lamb b Cowley . . . 20
D J P Boden c sub b Cowley . . . 9
D J Brock not out . . . 2
A Richardson not out . . . 2
Extras (b 12, lb 2, w 4) . . . 18
Total (9 wkts) . . . 170

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-111, 2-123, 3-128, 4-128, 5-128, 6-132, 7-133, 8-155, 9-167.

BOWLING: Shackleton 9 1-2-17-0, Dmani 3-0-16-0; Pike 30-12-68-2, Cowley 26-13-55-7

DORSET: First Innings
*† J E Hardy c Humphries b Brock . 15
T W Richings c Humphries b Boden . 22
R J Scott c Humphries b Richardson . 1
†G D Reynolds c Dean b Richardson . 6
T C Z Lamb c Potter b Richardson . 17
S W D Pimbut c Boden b Potter . . 5
N G Cowley low b Richardson . . 1
M Swarbrick c Humphries b Potter . . 7
V J Pike c Humphries b Potter . . 10
S Diment not out . . 1
J H Shackleton c Humphries b Potter . . 0
Extras (lb 3, w 2, nb 2) . . 7
Total (37.5 overs) . . 82

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-41, 2-41, 3-47, 4-58, 5-67, 6-70, 7-75, 8-89, 9-92

BOWLING: Richardson 18-7-49-4; Brock 11-2-29-1, Boden 1-0-5-1; Potter 7 5-5-6-4

Umpires: M K Reed and C T Pucket
Man of the Match: L Potter

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE: Pittsburgh 20 Baltimore 13; Atlanta 19 Carolina 14, Jacksonville 24 Chicago 23; Tennessee 23 Cincinnati 14, Green Bay 38 Detroit 19; Minnesota 31 Tampa Bay 7; NY Giants 31 Washington 24, Seattle 38 Philadelphia 0, New Orleans 24 St Louis 17; Dallas 38 Arizona 10; Miami 24 Indianapolis 15; San Diego 16 Buffalo 14; San Francisco 36 NY Jets 30 (OT), Kansas City 28 Oakland 8

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Detroit 3 Cleveland 2; Toronto 8 Boston 7, Chicargo White Sox 6 NY Yankees 5; Oakland 9 Tampa Bay 2, Anaheim 3 Kansas City 0, Minnesota 6 Texas 5; Baltimore 5 Seattle 2.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Florida 6 Montreal 2, Pittsburgh 4 Chicago Cubs 3(10inns), Atlanta 4 NY Mets 0, Milwaukee 5 Philadelphia 4; Colorado 12 San Diego 2; St Louis 5 Cincinnati 2, Houston 10 Arizona 1, San Francisco 6 Los Angeles 2

CYCLING

ESTEPONA, Spain: Tour of Spain: Third stage (Cadiz-Estepona, 192 6km): Leading positions: 1, J Kirsipuu (Est, Casino) 4hr 16mn 24sec, 2, M Wüst (Ger, Lotus), 3, G Lombardi (It, Telekom), 4, J Blijlevens (Hol, TVM), 5, I Carioli (It, Gaerne), 6, G Trenti (US, Cantina Tollo), 7, M Hwastija (Slovakia, Cantina Tollo), 8, R McEwen (Aus, Rabobank), 9, F Moncassin (Fr, Crédit Agricole); 10, M Zberg (Switz, Post Swiss) all same time. Overall standings: 1, L Jalabert (Fr, ONCE) 14hr 57mn 41sec, 2, Zberg at 2sec behind; 3, Gaumont 6sec; 4, G Figueras (It, Mapei) 7, 5, Gudi 8, 6, U Ebelsanna (Ven, Euskaltel) 12; 7, L Dierckxens (Bel, Lotto) 13; 8, A Galdeano (Sp, Euskaltel) 14, 9, Tchmil 15; 10, Commesse 11.

GOLF

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin: Greater Milwaukee Open: Leading final scores: (United States unless stated): 265: J Sluman 68, 65, 63, 68 266: S Stricker 68, 63, 67, 68 268: M Calcavecchia 66, 64, 69, 69; N Henke 70, 62, 67, 69 C Perry 68, 62, 67, 71 269: D Barron 67, 67, 68, 67 270: F Funk 68, 70, 65, 67; M Carnevale 68, 66, 69, 69 271: T Byrum 67, 68, 69, 67; G Hjerstedt (Swe) 66, 67, 69, 69, W Andrade 74, 64, 65, 68 K Wentworth 68, 65, 68, 70 272: B Kamm 70, 66, 67, 69 277: B Hughes (Aus) 71, 66, 70, 70 278: V Singh (Fij) 67, 70, 71, 70

PORTLAND, Oregon: Safeway LPGA championships: Leading final scores (United States unless stated): 204: Danielle Ammaccapane 65, 67, 72, 205: E Klein 68, 67, 70, 207: Dina Ammaccapane 71, 70, 66, 208: K Tschetter 71, 72, 65, E Wiscoff 70, 68, 70 209: N Sally 72, 70, 67 210: D Andrews 72, 67, 71, J Inkster 70, 68, 72; T Barrett 69, 69, 72 212: L Kane (Can) 73, 71, 68; M Lunn (Aus) 70, 73, 69; P Hammel 69, 74, 69; D Richard 73, 69, 70; K Albers 71, 71, 70; Se Ri Pak (Kor) 72, 69, 71, S Turner 70, 69, 73, M Hjorth (Swe) 70, 69, 73, C Sorenstam (Swe) 69, 69, 74, 213: N Webb (Aus) 71, 71, 71, 214: C Matthew (GB) 76, 70, 68, L Walters (Can) 74, 70, 70; L Bernvenuti (Br) 74, 70, 70 215: C Koch (Swe) 75, 71, 69; J Moodie (GB) 72, 73, 70, D Coe-Jones (Can) 75, 69, 71, S Croce (It) 72, 72, 71

DALMAHOY: Scottish Seniors Open: Leading final scores (Great Britain and Ireland unless stated): 273: D Hush 70, 65, 70, 68, D Jones 66, 70, 70, 67 (Hulsh won play-off at second extra hole) 274: D Oakley (US) 72, 70, 66, 66 275: C O'Connor (Ire) 71, 71, 65, B Brask (US) 74, 66, 66, 68 277: A Garrido (Sp) 70, 67, 72, 68, 280: J Garner 71, 71, 72, 66; I Clark 74, 69, 66, 71, N Wood 70, 73, 69, 68.

SAILING

PALMA, Spain: 470 yachting world championships: Leading positions after two days: Men: 1, E Barsalevich and I Matveyenko (Ukr) 37pts. 2, G Philippe and T Canou (Fr) 39, 3, P Leskinen and K Heinla (Fin) 41, 4, A Paradeda and A Fonseca (Br) 50, 5, A Kosmatopoulos and I. Trigonis (Gr) 62, 6, J Molund and M Rahm (Swe) 65 Women: 1, N vis Dutresne and S Azon (Sp) 18pts, 2, R Taran and E Pakholchik (Ukr) 27, 3, N Birkner and W Buelle (Ger) 28, 4, S Bekatorou and E Tsoutis (Gr) 35, 5, F Sesto and P Rienoso (Arg) 40

SHOOTING

BISLEY: North London Rifle Club championship: Siberia Cup (300, 500, 600yds): 1, M Wrigley 148 19pts; 2, P Thompson 148 18, 3, L Wicker 148 17 McLennan Cup (900 yds) 1, M Parker 49 7pts, 2, D Lowe 49 6, 3, C Westlan 49 4 IMF King Cup (1,000): 1, J Bullock 49 5pts, 2 D Lowe 49 3, A Bishop 49 3 Grand Aggregate: 1, Wicker 345.36pts; 2, Lowe 345.31, 3, L Brister 343.32 North London Rifle club championship Wicker 291 28pts.

SPEEDWAY

Premier league: Newport 49 Isle of Wight 35, Glasgow 48 Newcastle 41
Conference League: Mildenhall 45 St Austell 45

TENNIS

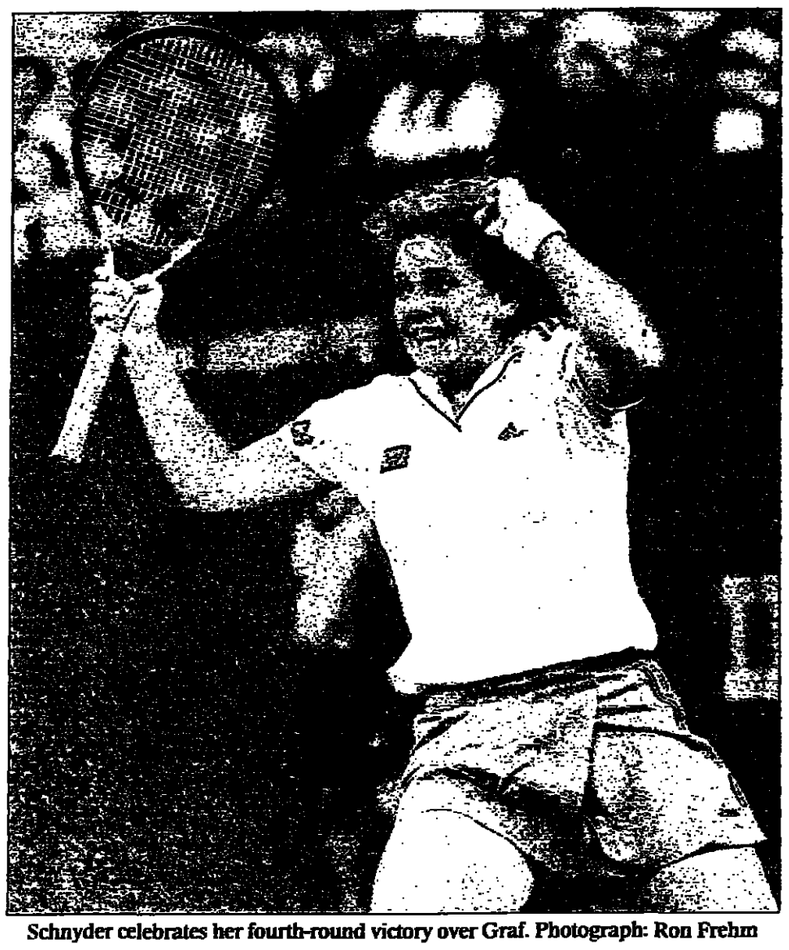
NEW YORK: US Open: Men: Singles: *Third round:* T Henman (GB) bt M Kohlmann (Ger) 6-3, 7-5, 1-6, 6-4, V Kafelnikov (Russ) bt N Kiefer (Ger) 6-4, 6-0, 6-2; C Moya (Sp) bt J-M Gambill (US) 6-2, 3-6, 3-6, 6-3, 7-6; O Gross (Ger) bt G Grant (US) 7-5, 6-7, 6-3, 7-5, A Corretja (Sp) bt B Black (Zim) 6-3, 4-6, 6-2, 7-6, M Philippoussis (Aus) bt L Arnold (Ar) 7-6, 6-3, 6-3, M Larsson (Swe) bt M Rios (Chile) 6-1, 6-7, 2-6, 6-3, 6-2, T Johansson (Swe) bt R Krajicek (Holl) 6-7, 5-4, ret Doubles: Third round: M Knowles (Bah) and D Nestor (Can) bt F Bergh and P Nyborg (Swe) 6-3, 6-0; N Broad (GB) and P Norval (SA) bt B Coupe (US) and D Randall (US) 6-4, 6-4, M Bhupathi and L Paes (India) bt L Bale (SA) and D Sapsford (GB) 6-0, 6-2; J Bjorkman (Swe) and P Rafter (Aus) bt D Adams (SA) and O Delattre (Fr) 6-3, 6-3 J L de Jager and R Kuerrig (SA) bt N Kulti and M Tillstrom (Swe) 7-6, 6-3 Women: Fourth round: M Seles (US) bt K Po (US) 6-2, 4-6, 6-3; M Hingis (Switz) bt N Dechy (Fr) 6-4, 6-4, J Novotna (Cz) bt I Spirlea (Rom) 6-3, 5-3; P Schnyder (Switz) bt S Graf (Ger) 6-3, 6-4, Doubles: Third round: L Raymond (US) and R Stubbs (Aus) bt M de Swardt (SA) and D Graham (US) 6-1, 6-4, A Frazer and K Schlukebir (US) bt L Osterloh and M Washington (US) 6-4, 6-2, V Ruano-Pascual (Sp) and P Suarez (Arg) bt K Kschwendt (Austria) and A G Sidot (Fr) 6-4, 6-2, C Dhenin and E Loit (Fr) bt L Courtois (Bel) and M Muric (Cro) 7-5, 6-4 Mixed Doubles: Second round: R McQuillan (Aus) and D Macpherson (Aus) bt L Neiland (Lat) and M Woodforde (Aus) 6-3, 6-2, P Tarabini (Arg) and D Johnson (US) bt N Miyagi (Japan) and D Rodik (Mex) 7-6, 6-2, L Raymond (US) and P Galbraith (US) bt C Vis (Holl) and J L de Jager (SA) 6-3, 4-6, 7-6.

The cat's whiskers: Sprite

TENNIS: FORMER WORLD No 1 OUTPLAYED BY SWISS TEENAGER AT FLUSHING MEADOWS

Graf sent packing by wily Schnyder

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK



Schnyder celebrates her fourth-round victory over Graf. Photograph: Ron Frehm

STEFFI GRAF, once the Mercedes of women's tennis, has become prone to mechanical failure. One week, she will wallop all-comers, as she did in New Haven ten days ago; the next, she succumbs without protest to the likes of Patty Schnyder, as she did on Sunday night here at the US Open. The woman with the aura of certainty has now become an enigma.

Graf's latest comeback is going to tax her to the hilt. It is not the losses that will trouble her, more the knowledge that she will not know what to expect when she takes to the court. Will it be the player who routed Lindsay Davenport and Jana Novotna two weeks ago, or the one who was outplayed by a Swiss teenager one step removed from the elite? Such dilemmas can play havoc within an organised mind.

In truth, Graf has hardly sparkled since she returned to the circuit in June. She has offered glimpses of her past dominance: her forehand remains a weapon capable of mass destruction. It seemed she might dally for a while before gracefully accepting that the surgeon's knife could fix her knee. Then came her New Haven show of defiance just before the US Open. Perhaps there would be one last hurrah after all.

Schnyder put such hopes into perspective. A left-hander without the raw strength of her Amazonian teenage contemporaries, Schnyder relies instead on guile. She outmanoeuvres her opponents. What her serve lacks in pace, it makes good with deception. Graf could not cope with it at all. Her efforts to step up a gear served only to increase her tally of unforced errors. She pressed the accelerator to draw away from Schnyder — and nothing happened.

"I could never get into a rhythm," Graf said afterwards. "It was difficult to get a positive attitude. I'm disappointed more with the way the match went rather than anything else. I feel I can do much better than that. It has been difficult to accept that it is going to take a certain time."

She holds 21 grand-slam titles, but time is a commodity that Graf, at 29, cannot afford. Conversely, time is on Schnyder's side. Seeded No 11, she has progressed significantly this year under the shadow of her more precocious compatriot, Martina Hingis. She entered the top ten two weeks ago and has collected five titles this year — more than any other player. She has campaigned intelligently, taking her chances at events away from the limelight, building her confidence for the final push into the world's elite. Graf, for one, feels that Schnyder will achieve that target — with a little more time.

Time has also been required by Mark Philippoussis, the Australian Leviathan whose forward momentum collapsed once his power game carried him as far as it could. Philippoussis has been quietly regrouping and his straight-sets defeat of Lucas Arnold late on Sunday night propelled him towards a fourth-round match with Tim Henman.

Both men are aware just how pivotal this match is. Early exits for Petr Korda, Richard Krajicek and Marcelo Rios have fractured the bottom half of the draw, in which Henman and Philippoussis reside. Henman aside, the surviving seeds are Yevgeny Kafelnikov and two predominantly clay-court exponents in Alex Correija and Carlos Moyà. The feeling is that the winner between Philippoussis and Henman can entertain prospects of reaching the final.

Henman and Philippoussis have shared the honours in their two previous encounters. Both believe that a place in the world's top ten is theirs for the taking. Philippoussis can be unplayable on a good day, but Henman will doubtless attempt to light the fuse that can sometimes cause the Australian to implode.

It should be an absorbing joust for supremacy and Philippoussis, ranked No 22 in the world, maintains that he knows what to expect of the Briton. "He will be coming to the net a lot. I think he'll be expecting a lot of loose shots from me, but I'm going to play a consistent match, just nice, consistent tennis."

Henman's progress to the second week here was not matched by Simon Dickson in the junior event yesterday. Dickson, from Cheshire, strained his groin last week and his condition deteriorated after a bright opening against Wei-Jen Cheng, the No 6 seed, from Tapei. Cheng took advantage of the Briton's compromised movement to prevail 3-6, 6-4, 6-2.

Rios grunts his way towards another exit

FROM ALIX RAMSAY IN NEW YORK

THERE will dancing in the streets of Vaxjo: Magnus Larsson, the tall Swede with the unreliable haircut, is through to the fourth round of the US Open. The fact that he defeated Marcelo Rios, the No 2 seed and pretender to Pete Sampras's world No 1 spot, brought dancing in some quarters of Manhattan, too. Not one of life's most likeable souls, Rios is one of the few players who is cheered as he leaves a tournament.

It was a typical performance by Rios. Recovering from Larsson's sprint start, all was looking well as he won the next two sets, but when Larsson broke the Chilean's service at the start of the fourth set, Rios lost interest and filtered out of the competition as only he can. With all the talent in the world and with so much to play for — Sampras has been clinging to pole position by his fingertips for most of this year — he just could not be bothered. That is Rios for you.

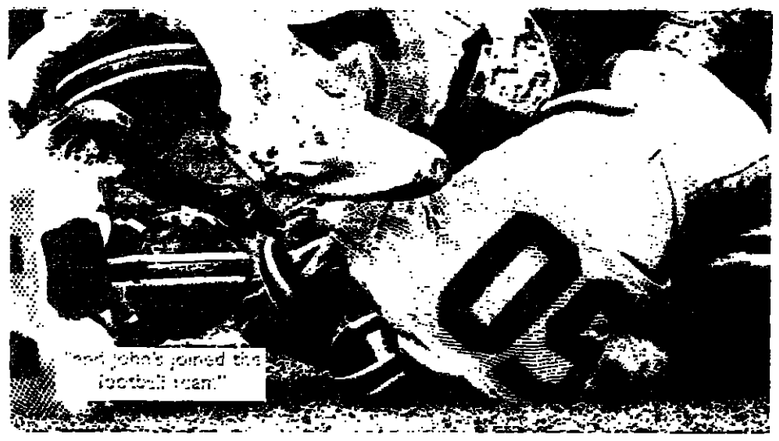
Later, he was giving little away. Was he disappointed to lose? "I think I'm not going to be happy if I didn't win," came the enigmatic reply. The inquisitor tried again, expanding his theme. Was the fact that it was a loss in a grand-slam tournament more disappointing? "Than what?" The complexity of the questions was obviously too much, best try the simple approach: How come Larsson won? "He didn't beat me, I made a lot of mistakes, a lot of errors," the charmless one said.

Anyone who expects any more of Rios is in for a long wait. His career is littered with miserable losses and lousy excuses. Once, as a junior, standing at match-point down, he walked off court rather than let his opponent win. This is the same player who, it is said, began an interview with a female reporter from Australia with the observation: "God, you're ugly." When asked why he is so difficult to deal with, he just shrugs and claims: "The media say I am not nice, so I am not nice."

Refusing autographs to children and growling at passers-by, it is no wonder that the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) tries to limit access to Rios to all but those promising to write positive pieces about him. Even the Chilean journalists who follow their diminutive hero around the globe warn all-comers of his antics — but then, when he is getting paid so much for doing so little, why change? Already this year, he has increased his bank balance by more than $1.6 million and he has yet to win a grand-slam event.

Still, he has racked up the results on the ATP tour his year, enough to push him past Sampras at the top of the rankings ladder. Once there, however, he has failed to win a match and he has been overtaken again by the American. Six weeks ago, he fired Larry Stefanki, his coach, who took him to the top of the heap, since when he has won only three matches in four tournaments. So is he worried?

"It is not the end of this world, losing this match," he shrugged. "I take a little week off and start practising again." Much to relief of many at Flushing Meadows, he will be doing it far away from here.



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AMERICAN FOOTBALL

San Francisco get off to winning start

BY OLIVER HOLT

ON THE opening day of last season, the San Francisco 49ers were beaten at home by the unfancied Tampa Bay Buccaneers, losing Jerry Rice, their star receiver, with a serious knee injury in the process.

On Sunday, they got off to an altogether more encouraging start, scoring an exciting 36-30 overtime victory over the New York Jets.

The scores were tied at 30-30 when Steve Young, the quarterback, gave a simple hand-off to Garrison Hearst, the his running back, four yards from the 49ers' end-zone. The Jets failed to stop him and, in winning the game, Hearst recorded the longest touchdown run in San Francisco's history.

Elsewhere, the Dallas Cowboys gave Chan Gailey, their new coach a winning start with a comprehensive 38-10 victory over the Arizona Cardinals.

In Indianapolis, the National Football League's newest star, Peyton Manning, threw for more than 300 yards on his quarterback debut but still ended up on the losing side as the Colts were beaten 24-15 by the Miami Dolphins.

The Green Bay Packers, beaten in the Super Bowl last season, recorded their 28th consecutive win at Lambeau Field with a 38-19 win over the Detroit Lions.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 48

WHIFFLER
(b) A fifer who preceded a great personage in a ceremonial. Alternatively, one who carried a short staff or spear used to clear the way for a procession. Perhaps the office lingers on in the modern Drum Major twirling and tossing his staff, and often catching it.

MAGMA
(c) Mobile, preponderantly molten rock, generated within the Earth, and from which igneous rocks are formed by solidification. It is capable of intrusion into the upper strata of the Earth's crust, or of extrusion through volcanoes at the Earth's surface.

COLASCIONE
(a) An intrument a bit like a lute. It originated in the East, but is now used in Southern Europe and Germany. It has a small rounded body and a very long neck. It is usually fitted with three strings, but sometimes with more.

COCKAROUSE
(c) A title of honour among the native Indians in Virginia. Hence it came to be used to designate a person of consequence among the colonists there.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 ... Bg4! traps the white queen, as if 2 Bxg4 Nd3+; 3 Kb1 Qxb2 checkmate

TELEVISION CHOICE

Justice in the balance again

Home Ground: Murder in the Graveyard
BBC2, 7.30pm

The latest documentary from the BBC regions to get a national showing is a story of what could be yet another in a seemingly endless line of miscarriages of justice. As the case is considered by the Criminal Cases Review Commission, the film cogently argues that a young man convicted of murder 25 years ago should be pardoned. When Wendy Sewell was found battered to death in Bakewell cemetery in Derbyshire, suspicion quickly fell on 17-year-old Stephen Downing. He worked in the cemetery, had blood on his clothes and confessed to the police, though he retracted the confession before the trial. The programme claims that none of the evidence against Downing stands up. At the time of the crime he had a reading age of 11 and was unlikely to have been capable of such a vicious attack.

Upper Crust
BBC2, 8.00pm

Yet another cookery series, you may groan, but this one is different in that it is set in country houses and features dishes traditionally enjoyed by the British aristocracy. The viewing figures will decide, but it is a fair guess than many non-aristocrats will be intrigued to know how the upper classes have lined their stomachs. The presenter is Christopher Sykes, a society photographer and part-time gourmet, and he begins at his own family estate, Sledmere in East Yorkshire. Among the featured dishes are ham boiled on a bed of hay, something called stoned cream (the stoning involves pouring the liquid from a great height to increase the bubbles) and a game pie. Those who thought the aristocrats had been going through a bad time will be reassured that Sledmere, at least, can still boast a cook, and a butler who has been there since 1952.

Equinox: big G
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Gravity turns out to be far more interesting that those of us of a non-scientific bent could have imagined. It has done most to determine the form and function of our bodies. It also sculpted our environment. Indeed, it is the force responsible for no less than the evolution of the Universe. And, this is the startling bit, it could, either by fire or ice, ultimately destroy us. At least the American scientists assembled here think it could, though we are probably safe for a while yet. The programme pays the obligatory tribute to Sir Isaac Newton for discovering the principle of gravity back in 1665 but convincingly establishes that it is much more complicated than an apple falling from a tree. Even Albert Einstein got some of it wrong.



Christopher Sykes examines the eating habits of Britain's aristocracy (BBC2, 8pm)

Chippendales: A Secret History
ITV, 10.40pm

Long before *The Full Monty* was a gleam in a film-maker's eye, young men in California were taking off their clothes for the delight of screaming women. But the Chippendales (named after the furniture) had the better bodies. This film is partly the story of their rise from a seedy club in Los Angeles to worldwide celebrity. It is more about their founder, a paranoid Indian called Steve Banerjee, and his ruthless way with anybody who dared to cross him. The first on Banerjee's hitlist was a business partner who became too successful in his own right, and the next were two former employees who set up a rival show. The intermediary who organised the hits tells all. His face is blacked out, presumably to avoid reprisals, though Banerjee has departed for the great strip show in the sky.

Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

Kennedy and the Violin
Radio 2, 10.00pm

The Kennedy formerly known as Nigel presents this third programme in a series about his musical life. He says that part of his job is to make the work look easy, which he regards as an obligation given the money he earns and the (relatively) short working day. Kennedy clearly has immense respect for his audience. He has a go at violin collectors, who, by purchasing violins and then locking them in safes, have forced up the price of college-standard instruments to as much as £50,000. As Kennedy says: "It's ridiculous, man." He calls his own fiddle the Kylie, "because it's beautiful and portable". Tonight's programme also deals with Kennedy's jazz excursions and with the "hysteria" surrounding his recordings of *The Four Seasons*.

Patient Progress: Natural Born Swillers
Radio 4, 9.00pm

The recent excitement over the book by the England and Arsenal footballer Tony Adams unfortunately overshadowed the book's real purpose, which was to show how Adams changed from social drinker to alcohol abuser in a descent which almost ended his career; until he faced his problem and overcame it. He would find this programme interesting, for it is about the strides being made in America towards identifying the gene that pre-disposes some people to drink too much. Sue Armstrong delves into the mix of nature and nurture that produces alcoholism, but the science is leavened with the very human story of a woman, identified as Ann, who recounts her own fall into addiction.

Peter Barnard

RADIO 1

6.30am Chris Moyles **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Jo Whiley. Includes **12.30pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Mark Radcliffe **4.00** Dave Pearce. Includes **5.45** Newsbeat **6.30** The Evening Session **8.30** Digital Update with Rachel Reynard **8.40** John Peel **10.30** Mary Anne Hobbs **12.00** The Breezeblock **2.00am** Emma B **4.00** Clive Warren

RADIO 2

6.00am Alex Lester **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **12.00** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Carl Davis Classics **8.00** Nigel Ogden **9.00** George Gershwin Centenary. First of a new four-part profile of the composer **10.00** Kennedy and the Violin. See Choice **10.30** Richard Allinson **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Annie Othen

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am Breakfast with Julian Worricker **9.00** Nicky Campbell **12.00** The Midday News **1.00pm** Ruscoe and Co **4.00** Nationwide with Jane Garvey **7.00** News Extra with David McNeil **7.30** The Tuesday Match. Leeds v Southampton and Nottingham Forest v Everton in the premiership. Plus, the First Division game between Sunderland and Bristol City **10.00** Late Night Live **1.00am** Up All Night **5.00** Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

6.30am Jonathan Ross **9.30** Bobby Hain **1.00pm** Nick Abbot **4.00** Mark Forrest **7.30** James Merritt **10.00** Paul Coyle **1.00am** Craig Wallace **4.30** Jeremy Clark

TALK RADIO

6.30am Bill Overton and Kirsty Young **9.00** Scott Chisholm **11.00** Lorraine Kelly **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **5.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Nick Abbot **9.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins and the Creatures of the Night **5.00** Bill Overton

WORLD SERVICE

7.00am News **7.15** Insight **7.30** Shadow Boxing On The Path To Nirvana **8.00** News **8.15** Off The Shelf: North Sea Crossing **8.30** The Edge **9.00** News; (648 only) News in German **9.10** Pause for Thought **9.15** Musical of the Week **10.00** News **10.05** World Business Report **10.15** Stories from the Afterlife **10.30** Looking at Literature: Much Ado About Nothing **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** On Screen **12.00** Newsdesk **12.30pm** Shadow Boxing On The Path To Nirvana **1.00** News; (648 only) News in German **1.05** World Business Report **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** Health Matters **1.45** Sports Roundup **2.00** Newshour **3.00** News **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Multitrack Hit List **4.00** News **4.05** Sports Roundup **4.15** Westway **4.30** The Greenfield Collection; (648 only) News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** World Business Report **5.45** Britain Today **6.00** News **6.15** Insight **6.30** Heads and Tails (648 only) News in German **6.45** Sports Roundup **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** One Planet **8.00** News **8.01** Outlook **8.25** Pause for Thought **8.30** Megamix **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.05** World Business Report **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** Meridian Live **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Insight **11.45** Sports Roundup **12.00** News **12.05am** Outlook **12.30** Megamix **1.00** Newsdesk **1.30** The Farming World **1.45** Britain Today **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Discovery **3.00** Newsday **3.30** Meridian Live **4.00** News **4.05** World Business Report **4.15** Sports Roundup **4.30** The World Today **5.00** The World Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **8.00** Henry Kelly. Includes the Hall of Fame and Record of the Week **12.00** Lunchtime Requests. Jane Jones introduces listeners' favourite pieces of music **2.00pm** Concerto. Schumann (Cello Concerto in A minor) **3.00** Jamie Crick. Includes Continuous classics and Afternoon Romance **6.30** Newsnight. News updates with John Brunning **7.00** Smooth Classics at Seven. John Brunning introduces two hours of easy-listening music **9.00** Evening Concert. Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 2 in B flat), Richard Strauss (Metamorphosen), Schubert (Symphony No 4 in C minor) **11.00** Mann at Night. Music and conversation for the small hours **2.00am** Concerto (r) **3.00** Mark Griffiths

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. Presented by Petroc Trelawny. Includes Vivaldi (Motet: Nulla In Mundo Pax Sincera); Schubert (Rondo in A for violin and strings)
9.00 Masterworks, with Penny Gore. Includes Glazunov (Concert Waltz No 2 in F); Schubert (Duo in A); Handel (Chandos Anthem No 2: In the Lord I Put My Trust); Muffat (Sonata No 3 in A, Armonico Tributo); Glazunov (Chopiniana)
10.30 Artist of the Week: Jean-Yves Thibaudet
11.00 Sound Stories: Siren Voices. Augusta Holmes
12.00 Proms Composer of the Week: Janáček
1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert: Double Take. Another chance to hear the concert series given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol. Medici Quartet, Vaughan Williams (String Quartet No 2); Beethoven (String Quartet in F) (r)
2.00 BBC Proms 98. Last Wednesday's Prom (r)
4.00 Choral Voices: The Orthodox Line. BBC Singers under Stephen Layton. Tchaikovsky (Cherubic Hymn, Liturgy of St John Chrysostom); Rachmaninov (Eucharistic Prayer, Liturgy of St John Chrysostom); Stravinsky (Blessed Virgin); Tavener (Hymn to the Mother of God). Plus music by Gretchaninov, Titov and Kalinnokov
4.45 Music Machine: In at the Deep End. Presented by Verity Sharp (r)
5.00 In Tune, with Sean Rafferty
7.00 BBC Proms 98. Raphael Oleg, violin, Czech Philharmonic Libor Pesek. Dvořák (Overture My Home); Szymanowski (Violin Concerto No 1) **7.40** The Reluctant Symphonist. John Deathridge looks at the musical and cultural influences that shaped Brahms's First Symphony, tracing a long journey from private doubt to public faith in the German symphonic tradition **8.00** Concert, part two. Brahms (Symphony No 1 in C minor)
9.15 Postscript: Living Ideas. Quentin Skinner, one of today's leading historians of political thought, argues that Machiavelli still has a great deal to teach (2/5) (r)
9.30 Bach. (Flute Sonata in E minor) William Bennett, George Malcolm, harpsichord, Michael Evans, cello
10.00 BBC Proms 98. Live from the Albert Hall, London. Sequentia under Barbara Thornton Hildegard of Bingen (Ordo Virtutum)
11.30 Jazz Notes. Alyn Shipton talks to the American clarinettist and saxophonist Ken Peplowski during his visit to the Brecon Jazz Festival
12.00 Composers of the Week: Eisler and Weill (r)
1.00am Through the Night, with Susan Sharpe

RADIO 4

6.00am Today, with Sue MacGregor and James Naughtie. Includes **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day
9.00 On the Ropes. John Humphrys talks to Sir Charles Wolseley, whose attempts to open a 45-acre garden and leisure centre ended in financial disaster (6/6)
9.30 Tales from the Village. Exploring the traditions and beliefs shaping everyday life in Africa. Joel Kibazo attends a traditional funeral in Kenya (2/5)
9.45 (FM) The Owl's Watchsong. Tim Pigott-Smith reads J.A. Cuddon's 1950s tribute to the once imperial city of Istanbul (2/5)
9.45 (LW) Daily Service
10.00 News; Woman's Hour, with Martha Kearney
11.00 News; Cajun Country. Peter McCarthy investigates the history of the Acadians — French settlers in Canada (2/3) (r)
11.30 Sketches by Boz: The Bloomsbury Christening. Charles Dickens's comic tale. With Nicholas Farrell, Geoffrey Whitehead and Charlie Simpson (2/5)
12.00 (FM) News; You and Yours, with Liz Barclay and John Waite **12.57pm** Weather
12.00 (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.30 Points of Law. Huw Edwards cross-examines top lawyers Mark Stephens and Eileen Pembridge and their guests at the Old Hall of Lincoln's Inn in London
2.00 News; The Archers (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: The Hydro. Ronald Frame's drama set in a luxury hotel in the Scottish Highlands. With Eliza Langland, Crawford Logan and Edith Macarthur (3/4)
3.00 News; The Exchange. Call 0171-580 4444. Robin Lustig invites your views on today's topical issue
3.30 Blind Man on the Rampage. The BBC disabilities correspondent Peter White presents programmes with a unique take on life (2/5) (r)
3.45 The Lyrical Ballads. Sean Bean reads from the work of Wordsworth and Coleridge, first published 200 years ago (2/4)
4.00 News; The Learning Curve. The *Times* columnist Libby Purves presents the education magazine. Today Purves examines recent reports which claim that being the brightest student can hold you back
4.30 Shop Talk, with Heather Payton and guests
5.00 PM, with Chris Lowe and Clare English **5.54 (LW)** Shipping Forecast **5.57** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 The Nualas. Comedy from the Edinburgh Festival. With Sue Collins, Anne Gildea, Karen Egan and Paul Tylak
7.00 News; The Archers 7.15 Front Row. Mark Lawson chairs the nightly arts programme
7.45 Dear Jayne Browne (2/5) (r)
8.00 News; Diagnosing Deutschland. David Sells explores fears about Germany's future (1/2)
8.40 In Touch. Peter White introduces news for visually impaired people
9.00 News; Patient Progress: Natural Born Swillers. See Choice
9.30 On the Ropes (r) **10.00 The World Tonight,** with Isabel Hilton
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Saucer of Larks. Niall Buggy reads the second of a selection of short stories by Brian Friel (2/5)
11.00 Late Night on 4: The Iguanodon. A comedy adventure by Paul Lucas. With Paul Haigh, Dermot Crowley and Bernard Cribbins (1/3) (r)
11.30 Talking Pictures, with Russell Davies
12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: Tales From Ovid, by Ted Hughes (7/10) (r)
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service
5.30 World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast
5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day
5.47 Farming Today, with Charlotte Smith

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089.
Television and radio listings compiled by Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

Samantha's pretty predictable procedures

We both know how tricky it can be to follow the complex legal twists in modern detective dramas, so once ITV's new cop series, **Liverpool One**, starring Samantha Janus and Mark Womack, got under way — with random low-life types being shot and jumping off balconies — we were probably all on the edge of our seats trying to work out the exact same thing: how long will it take for this convoluted plot to unfold in a way that allows Janus to take off her clothes? (a) Less than ten minutes; (b) about 30 minutes; or (c) more than 45 minutes. When the scene finally came, after half an hour, it had the opposite of what must have been the intended effect. Far from locking us in like radar, the chest-baring was so presposterously contrived that it snapped you out of tough-cop-drama mood and straight back into Janus's familiar habitat of sitcomland. It was as jarring as riding a bicycle which suddenly, and inexplicably, slips out of gear.

Not that it had all been Raymond Chandler up until then. The good news was that for those of you who are having difficulty with the volume control on your television sets, you could watch quite a lot of this opening episode without any sound at all: the plot and the dialogue were lifted straight from the detective-drama textbook. Humourless, sententious, Liverpool plainclothes detective in vice squad gets new partner (young, blonde, Cockney, just transferred at her own request from the Met). They hit it off, on first meeting, like colliding billiard balls, although there is an undertow in the way they look at each other that telegraphs to us that before very long they'll probably be rubbing along more snugly than two spoons in a cutlery tray.

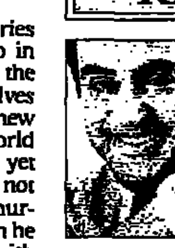
Janus — here's a surprise — looks less Cagney and Lacey than Dolce & Gabbana. And nor is *Liverpool One* quite as slick as *Murder One*.

Steven Bochco's entire series would have been wrapped up in one 30-minute episode with the speed at which Janus solves crimes: it's her first day in the new job, she hasn't got an underworld contact north of Hornchurch, yet before night has fallen she's not only fingered an attempted murderer but also recovered the gun he used for the shooting, albeit with the help of the guy's moll.

The moll conveniently spares Janus a lot of footwork by telling her (stop me if you've heard this speech before) "You want me to tell you Mikey did him. Well, yes! All right! He did him! You know it, so do I . . . But I'm never giving no statement. I'm never going to court against Mikey, or none of them!"

Somehow the script had recovered sufficiently by the end of this opening episode to make you think that if the director can persuade Janus to keep her clothes on, while at the same time excising speeches from gangster's molls that could have been written any time in the past 50 years, then *Liverpool One* could be a success. It looks more promising than any police story starring such an improbable detective as Janus has a right to be.

REVIEW



Joe Joseph

Later on ITV, in the opening episode of the American sitcom **Veronica's Closet**, Kirstie Alley gave Janus and the rest of the cast of the recent ITV disaster *Babes In The Wood* a few lessons on comic timing. *Veronica's Closet*, in which Alley plays the famous head of a lingerie empire, may not be at the top of the first division of American sitcoms, but it still has a pulse that's hard to find in much of the domestic competition.

This pilot episode, avoiding leaden lines of exposition, has already neatly established both the "situation" and a core cast with recognisable characters and idiosyncracies. If this is what ITV is buying to replace Hale and Pace, then whoopee.

Another ITV novelty was **Fat**, the first of six programmes on obesity. Rather than compiling a gallery of freaks, the film-maker Anthony Thomas has taken a sober look at a subject which many doctors regard as a world crisis.

Last night's film, *Fatally Fat*, focused on the work of Professor George Cowan, a surgeon who runs a hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, where he has developed a radical surgical procedure to treat people whose obesity is life-threatening: he divides the stomach and the intestine, steering all food through a teeny, half-ounce pouch. This makes the brain think the stomach is full after only a few mouthfuls.

But as he tells us about how patients such as Christie Martin, from Arkansas, — 24 years old and 36½ stone, two failed marriages behind her and a six-year-old daughter to look after — cope with the surgery, Thomas also builds up a collage of the emotional pain that consumes fat people. Christie knows that without Cowan's surgery she'll die, but that she could equally die on the operating table: "But if something happens during surgery I'm not going to know what hit me. It's going to be over with, and along with it being over with, the hurting will be over with, too."

Becky Smith, who weighed more than 24 stone before Cowan turned her into a nine-stone beautician, confessed: "I'm so happy no one makes fun of me any more. When I sit in a chair, I don't have to put my fat in on the side. When I go to a buffet line people aren't sniggering at me for getting food off an all-you-can-eat buffet."

As for Christie Martin, she doesn't even drop off her daughter, Olivia, at school any more, for fear that Olivia will be victimised for her mother's obesity. And if Christie wants to take Olivia shopping, or play with her in the park, she does it early in the morning, to protect her from the stares of strangers. It was a tender and frequently moving film.

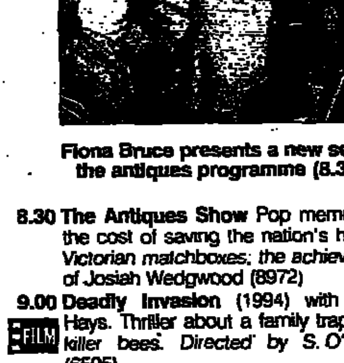
BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (88243) **7.00** BBC Breakfast News (T) (58427) **9.00** Kilroy (7800224)
9.40 Breakers (7752934)
10.05 Sex Wars *Female boxers* (9719663)
10.30 Daily Live with Paul Ross (T) (4313717)
10.55 News (T) Regional News and weather (1957953)
11.00 Style Challenge (1967330)
11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (1977717)
11.55 News (T) Regional News and weather (7070717)
12.00 Through the Keyhole (T) (7989040)
12.25pm Wipeout Bob Monkhouse hosts (7908175)
12.50 The Weather Show (T) (17457972)
1.00 One O'Clock News (T) and weather (51514)
1.30 Regional News (41012972)
1.40 Neighbours Billy's birthday bash (T) (97268088)
2.05 Breakers (r) (29044175)
2.25 Quincy (r) (1/2) (7734243)
3.15 The Weather Show (r) (T) (2613972)
3.25 The Greedysaurus Gang (r) (5700175) **3.30** Playdays (r) (7802514) **3.50** ChuckleVision (r) (7882750) **4.10** Gadget Boy (r) (6323311) **4.35** Round the Twist (r) (T) (3478311) **5.00** Newsround (T) (8889663)
5.10 Byker Grove (r) (T) (6922663)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (898972)
6.00 Six O'Clock News (T) and weather (359)
6.30 Regional News Magazine (311)
7.00 Holiday Heaven South Africa; Italy; Lake District (T) (2175)
7.30 EastEnders Tiffany places Grant in an unenviable position (T) (595)
8.00 Fraud Squad *Another investigation for the trading standards officers* (8595)
8.30 999 Lifesavers *Reconstructions of two incidents in which babies nearly died by drowning* (7530)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News (T) Regional News and Weather (7224)
9.30 Men Behaving Badly *Gary suspects Dorothy of having an affair* (r) (T) (90330)
10.00 Crimewatch UK Appeal for witnesses (T) (526363)
10.50 BBC Proms James Naughtie introduces Baroque masterpieces from the Royal Albert Hall. The Academy of Ancient Music and the Choir of New College, Oxford, perform under the baton of Christopher Hogwood. Soloists: Andrew Manze and Emma Kirkby. Including Handel's *Water Music* and *Zadok the Priest* and Bach's Violin Concerto in E major (1579972) **WALES: 10.50** Mad on Science (579935) **10.55** Med on Science (541359) **11.25** BBC Proms (168021)
11.55 Crimewatch UK Update (T) (986069)
12.05am Falsely Accused (1993) Fact-based drama starring Lisa Hartman Black. Directed by Noel Nosseck (1408354) **WALES: 12.30am** Crimewatch UK Update (7169354) **12.40** FILM: Falsely Accused (2105880)
1.35 Weather (2967538)
1.40 BBC News 24 WALES: 2.15 Joins BBC News 24

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BBC2

6.10am Jazz, Raga and Synthesizers (9209798) **6.35** Ouverture (5468595)
7.00 Teletubbies (1691750) **7.25** Smurfs' Adventures (1610885) **7.50** Blue Peter (r) (T) (3449682) **8.15** *The Biskitts* (r) (4186972) **8.35** The Greedysaurus Gang (r) (8679224) **8.45** Harry and the Hendersons (r) (T) (6850798) **9.10** *Hawkeye* (r) (7822446) **9.50** *Cartoon* (6799311) **10.00** Teletubbies (11408)
10.30 Act of Love (1954) Emotional drama with Kirk Douglas and Brigitte Bardot. An ill-fated love affair between destitute French girl Dany Robin and an American soldier whose posting elsewhere has tragic consequences. Directed by Anatole Litvak (35314595)
12.15pm Wear It Well 12.30 Working Lunch (85408) **1.00** Wishing
1.10 The Fighting Seabees (1944) War drama with John Wayne and Dennis O'Keefe. Directed by Edward Ludwig (52994040)
2.45 News (T) (9781069) **2.50** *Who'll Do the Pudding? Cold watercress soup: flambéed peppered steak with whisky sauce; deep-fried strawberry parcels* (4800243) **3.20** *Beautiful Things* (5709446) **3.25** News (T) (5708717)
3.30 How Does Your Garden Grow? Mark Jeffries's green-fingered panel.. (717) **4.00** Change That (6844601) **4.25** Ready, Steady, Cook (6854088) **4.55** Esther: Spiritual Healers (8901392) **5.30** Today's the Day (208)
6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (323427) **6.25** Heartbreak High (956866) **7.10** The O Zone: Sheryl Crow; Courtney Love (501663)
7.30 CHOICE **Home Ground** Has a man jailed for the murder of Wendy Sewell 25 years ago been wrongfully convicted? (r) (T) (137)
8.00 CHOICE **Upper Crust** New series, with Christopher Sykes. An atlas of aristocratic cuisine (T) (6137)

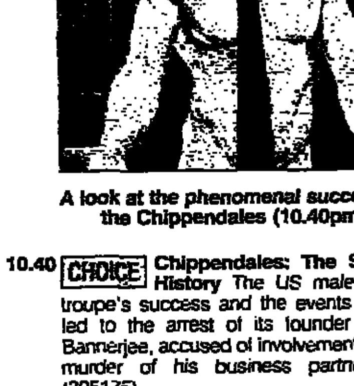


Fiona Bruce presents a new series of the antiques programme (8.30pm)

8.30 The Antiques Show Pop memorabilia; the cost of saving the nation's heritage: *Victorian matchboxes; the achievements* of Josiah Wedgwood (8972)
9.00 Deadly Invasion (1994) with Robert Hays. Thriller about a family trapped by killer bees. *Directed by S. O'Bannon* (6595)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (531663)
11.15 Nightmare in Paradise (2/3) (225750) **11.55** Grace Under Fire (440682) **12.25am** Weather
12.30am Learning Zone: Refining the View (26170) **1.00** Artists in Logic (55731) **1.30** Hackers, Crackers and Worms (77441) **2.00** The Greats (11660) **4.00** Get by in Spanish (16712) **5.00** Career Moves (7971644) **5.45** Living with Technology (31970)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (1162717)
9.25 Vanessa (T) (6799446)
10.15 This Morning (T) (84382137)
12.15pm Regional News (2452750)
12.30 News (T) (72934)
1.00 Shortland Street (46682)
1.30 Home and Away (T) (71205)
2.00 Jerry Springer (T) (3321682)
2.45 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (T) (234682)
3.15 News (T) (5706359)
3.20 Regional News (5796972)
3.25 Wizadora (5786595) **3.35** Singing Kettle News (r) (4128408) **3.45** Wolves, Witches (T) (4131972) **4.00** Zzzap! (6338243) **4.20** Jumanji (T) (7693137) **4.40** Out of Sight (r) (T) (8254156)
5.10 WALES: *Playing for Time* (T) (9671205)
5.10 Clive's Walks (9671205)
5.40 News (T) (917514)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (310953)
6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (248359)
6.25 Regional Weather (951359)
6.30 The West Tonight (T) (779)
7.00 Emmerdale (T) (7243)
7.30 WALES: The Endeavour (663)
7.30 All Gardens Great and Small (663)
8.00 Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? (3663)
8.30 Police, Camera, Action! (r) (T) (2798)
9.00 Supply and Demand: Raw Recruit *Jake is determined to prove Hughes was involved in Hall's deception and murder* (T) (8205)
10.00 News at Ten (T) (47750)
10.30 Regional News (661953)



A look at the phenomenal success of the Chippendales (10.40pm)

10.40 CHOICE **Chippendales: The Secret History** The US male striptroupe's success and the events which led to the arrest of its founder Steve Bannerjee, accused of involvement in the murder of his business partner (T) (305175)
11.40 WALES: The Front Row Special (r) (T) (755601)
11.40 West Match Plus (790779)
12.15 am Artyfax (r) (T) (36625)
12.40am Haunted Fishtank (4680286)
1.10 Planet Rock (9133625)
1.40 *Motor Sport* (6353915)
2.05 Emergency (1962, b/w) with Zena Walker and Dermot Walsh. A dying child's parents reaffirm their marriage as they search for a blood donor. Directed by Francis Searle (1321996)
3.20 Football Extra (9566644)
4.15 Cybernet (67551083)
4.40 Soundtrax (67369422)
5.00 Nightscreen (17083)
5.30 News (43335)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
1.00pm Echo Point (46682)
1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (7333446)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9671205)
6.25-7.00 Central News (248359)
7.30-8.00 Trauma (663)
11.40 Central Sports Special (182601)
1.10am The Haunted Fishtank (9133625)
2.05 FILM: Emergency (8799793)
3.05 Soundtrax (55145793)
3.25 Nationwide Football League Extra (9565915)
4.20 Central Jobfinder '98 (7995880)
5.20 Asian Eye (9493248)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.15pm Westcountry News (2452750)
12.27-12.30 Illuminations (4920156)
1.00 *Emmerdale* (46682)
1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (7333446)
5.08 Birthday People (1511021)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9671205)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (80953)
7.30-8.00 Peter Gorton for Starters (663)
11.45 Renegade (276953)
1.10am Planet Rock Profiles (9133625)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except.
12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News and Weather (2452750)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9671205)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (427)
6.30-7.00 Summer Festivals (779)
7.30-8.00 Walk Over History (663)
11.45 Prisoner: Cell Block H (276953)
5.00am Freescreen (17083)

ANGLIA

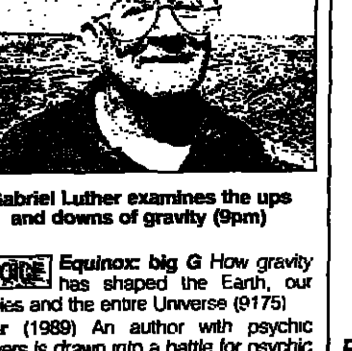
As HTV West except.
12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (4924972)
1.00-1.30 Split Second (46682)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9671205)
6.23 Anglia Weather (952088)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (248359)
7.30-8.00 Liza's Country (663)
10.29 Anglia Air Watch (821205)
11.40 Midweek Kick-Off! (790779)

S4C

Starts: **7.00am The Big Breakfast** (41137) **9.00 Bewitched** (64427) **9.30 FILM: Moon Over Miami** (26594392) **11.10 Druk Yul** (7061330) **11.30 Moving People** (1427) **12.00pm Caroline in the City** (44663) **12.30 Sesame Street** (70576) **1.00 Slot Meithrin** (57059069) **1.15 Deri Deg** *(57047224)* **1.30 Collectors' Lot** (34532682) **1.50 FILM: The Return of Frank James** (51184953) **3.30 Deals on Wheels** (885) **4.00 Fifteen-to-One: The *Big Winners*** *(392)* **4.30 Ricki Lake** (576) **5.00 5 Pump** (5021) **5.30 Countdown** (156) **6.00 Newyddion 6** (781427) **6.10 Heno** *(979682)* ***7.00 Pobol y Cwm*** *(254243)* **7.25 Brodyr Bach** (507934) **8.00 Yma Mae 'Nghan** (1205) **8.30 Newyddion** (3040) **9.00 Rasus** (9175) **10.00 *Brookside*** *(480205)* ***10.35 Equinox*** (304446) **11.35 FILM: In the Eyes of a Stranger** (456779) **1.15am Spin City** (23151) **1.45 Riding the Tiger** (22422) ***2.15 Diwedd*** *(94170625)*

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (71953)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (T) (41137)
9.00 Bewitched (r) (T) (64427)
9.30 Moon Over Miami (1941) Musical starring Betty Grable and Carole Landis. Two sisters look for wealthy husbands. Directed by Walter Land (26594392)
11.10 Druk Yul Life in Bhutan (7061330)
11.30 Moving People Following a family of six as they move from Caernarfon to Wiltshire by train; and a mother and her *three children move from a homeless* hostel to a three-bedroom house in Bromley (r) (T) (1427)
12.00 Sesame Street (44663)
12.30pm I Dream of Jeannie (T) (70576)
1.00 Watercolour Challenge (44224)
1.30 Spare Time (41096934)
1.45 The Sisters *(1938) Starring Bette Davis* and Errol Flynn. The three Elliott belles of Montana discover that there's more to marriage than finding a mate. Directed by *Anatole Litvak (17407779)*
3.30 Classic Homes: The Bungalow (r) (T) (885)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (r) (T) (392)
4.30 Countdown Richard Whiteley hosts the game show (T) (3462750)
4.55 Ricki Lake: After Years of Tears, Ricki *Brought Us Together* *(T) (8936088)*
5.30 Pet Rescue A search is mounted to find a missing pot-bellied pig (T) (156)
6.00 Cheers (r) (T) (999)
6.30 King of the Hill (r) (T) (791)
7.00 News (T) and weather (188798)
7.50 Algeria Daily (T) (387205)
8.00 In Your Dreams A four-year-old who has terrifying dreams several times a week; and a Holocaust survivor who is haunted by memories of her family (T) (1205)
8.30 Brookside Jacqui is rushed to hospital (T) (3040)



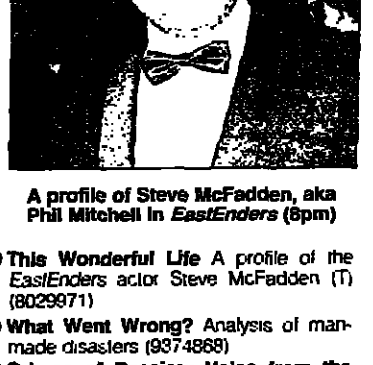
Gabriel Luther examines the ups and downs of gravity (9pm)

9.00 CHOICE **Equinox: big G** *How gravity* has shaped the Earth, our bodies and the entire Universe (9175)
10.00 Fear (1989) An author with psychic powers is drawn into a battle for psychic supremacy with a serial killer. With Ally Sheedy, Lauren Hutton and Pruitt Taylor Vince (251866)
11.45 Riding the Tiger (r) (T) (274595)
12.45am The Real World (r) (33538)
1.15 Homicide: Life on the Street (r) (T) *(817996)*
2.15 Trauma: Knife and Gun Club Also known as the emergency room at Denver General Hospital (2/13) (2882606)
2.50 The Third Secret (1964) *Thriller starring* Stephen Boyd, Pamela Franklin and Judi Dench. Directed by Charles Crichton (224408)
4.45 Survivors *(r) (T) (6042426)*

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a **Videocrypt** decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: **10.92075 GHz**; sound: **7.02** and **7.20 MHz**

6.00 am 5 News and Sport (6748798)
7.00 WideWorld (r) (T) (1721972) **7.30** *Milkshake! (5701088)* **7.35 What-a-Mess** (1878359) **8.00** Havakazoo (9983576) **8.30** Dappledown Farm (r) (9915175)
9.00 The Great Garden Game (r) (T) (5715446) **9.25** Russell Grant's Postcards (8642514) **9.30** Oprah Winfrey (7575040) **10.20** Sunset Beach (T) (4747243) **11.10** Leeza (5831327)
12.00 5 News at Noon (T) (9986663) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (2295137) **1.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (1720243) **1.30** Sons and Daughters (2294408) **2.00** 100 Per Cent Gold (8924327) **2.30** Open House with Gloria Hunniford (3466682)
3.30 Undercover *(1982) Comedy with* Genevieve Picot, John Walton and Michael Pare. A young woman in 1920s Australia gets a break in the underwear *business. Director David Stevens* (2269885)
5.10 The Oprah Winfrey Show: Alcoholic Family's Trashy Secrets (9243088)
6.00 100 Per Cent (4367069)
6.30 Family Affairs Claire leaves for her holiday (T) (4341021)
7.00 5 News *(T) (4324363)*
7.30 Where the Bison Roam Documentary on the North American beaver (T) (4347205)



A profile of Steve McFadden, aka Phil Mitchell in *EastEnders* (8pm)

8.00 This Wonderful Life A profile of the *EastEnders* actor Steve McFadden (T) (8029971)
8.30 What Went Wrong? Analysis of man-made disasters (9374868)
9.00 Crimes of Passion: Voice from the Grave *(1996, TVM) Thriller with* Kevin Dobson and Megan Ward in which a woman is haunted by visions of a colleague's murder. Director. David *Jackson* (25531137)
10.40 Not the Jack Docherty Show Chat and comedy with Melinda Messenger (7853798)
11.20 La Femme Nikita Madeline confronts her mysterious past while foiling a terrorist plot (r) (9552682)
12.15 am Live and Dangerous Sports magazine (48697170)
3.45 The Asian Football Show (5472373)
4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (4427847)
5.30 100 Per Cent (T) (4320977)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● **For further listings see Saturday's *Vision***

SKY 1

8.00am Tattooed Teenage Alien Fighters (38408) **8.30** Street Sharks (97779) **9.00** Garfield and Friends *(11359)* **9.30** The Simpsons (23682) **10.00** Games World (2577601) **10.15** Games World (2567224) **10.30** Just Kidding (23953) **11.00** The Superman (80040) **12.00** Married with Children *(91595)* ***12.30pm*** M*A*S*H (7082408) **12.55** Special K Collection (61657243) **1.00** Geraldo (3090866) **1.55** Special K Collection (51826514) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (1224507) **2.55** Special K Collection *(9194563)* ***3.00*** *Jenny Jones* (4794137) **3.55** Special K Collection (1976953) **4.00** Oprah (37311) **5.00** Star Trek. Deep Space Nine (8750) **6.00** Married with Children (3311) **6.30** Dream Team (4663) **7.00** *The Simpsons (6779)* **7.30** Real TV (3175) **8.00** Speed! (5427) **8.30** Coppers (4934) **9.00** Riots (76798) **10.00** The Extraordinary (79885) **11.00** Dream Team (38040) **11.30** Star Trek. Deep Space Nine (58750) **12.30am** *Nowhere Man* (57286) **1.30** Long Play (5829064)

SKY BOX OFFICE

Sky's pay-per-view movie channels.
To view any film telephone 0990 800888
Each film costs **£2.99** per viewing
SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 26) **Grosse Point Blanke (1997)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 2 *(Transponder 60)* **Conspiracy Theory (1997)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) **Turbo: A Power Rangers Movie (1997) Speed 2: Cruise Control (1997)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) **Romy and Michelle's High School Reunion (1997)**

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

6.00am The Judge Steps Out (1949) (21942243) **7.35 They Won't Believe Me (1947)** (54028934) **9.10 Split Infinity (1992)** (19185798) **11.00 The Judge Steps Out (1949)** *(13682)* **1.00pm They Won't Believe Me (1947)** (69069) **3.00 The Land Before Time III: The Time of the Great Giving (1995)** (69866) **5.00 *Split Infinity*** (1992) (73476) **7.00 Dunston Checks In (1995)** (92507) ***8.00 Restoration*** **(1996)** (84717) **11.00 The Cable Guy (1995)** (695446) **12.35am Omen III: The Final Conflict (1981)** (294083) **2.25 Drop Squad (1994)** (7684793) **3.55 Mad Love (1995)** (95081267)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

6.00am Heart of Fire (1996) (20953) **8.00 Dogmatic (1996)** (76359) **10.00 August (1995)** (36156) **12.00 Last Stand at Saber River (1997)** (59682) **2.00pm Dogmatic (1996)** (68779) **4.00 *August* (1995)** (1224) **6.00 The Karate Kid II (1986)** (71243) **8.00 Surviving Picasso (1996)** (83088) **10.00 The Rich Man's Wife (1996)** (782311) **11.40 A Thin Line Between Love and Hate (1996)** *(844885)* ***1.30am*** **Breaking In (1989)** (385460) **3.05 Deadly Pursuits (1996)** (578064) **4.40 Heart of Fire (1996)** (6719967)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Shepherd of the Hills (1941) (65240427) **5.40 Zorba the Greek (1964)** (42717069) **8.00 The Taking of Flight 847: The Uli Derickson Story (1988)** (2886683) **10.00 Fatal Attraction (1987)** (9153595) **12.00 The Seventh Sign (1988)** (1556422) **1.40am Married to the Mob (1988)** (8320335) **3.25 The Jolson Story (1946)** (11851002) **5.30** Close

TNT

9.00pm The Philadelphia Story (1940) (98625137) **11.00 The Adventures of Robin Hood (1938)** (61221663) **1.00am The Safecracker (1958)** (62288170) **2.45 The Philadelphia Story (1940)** (59747712) **5.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre **7.15** V-Max **7.45** Survival of the Fittest **8.15** Sports Centre **8.30** Racing News **9.00** Aerobics **9.30** Football League Review **10.30** Cricket: Lancashire *v Hampshire* **12.00** Aerobics **12.30pm** V-Max **1.00** Motorcycling **3.00** Football League Review **4.00** Windsurfing **4.30** V-Max **5.00** Wrestling **6.00** Sports Centre **6.30** The Footballers' Football Show **7.30** Fastrax ***8.00*** *Pavilion End* **9.00** Golf: Mastercard Tour **10.00** Sports Centre **10.15** The Footballers' Football Show **11.15** Rugby League Academy **12.15am** Sports Centre **12.30** Football League Review **2.00** Pavilion End **3.00** Sports Centre *3.15 Close*

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics **7.30** Sports Centre **7.45** Racing *News* **8.15** Windsurfing: World Championship **8.45** Sports Centre **9.00** Fish TV **10.00** Motorcycling Special: Assen Superbikes & Imola Grand Prix **12.00** Football League Review **1.00pm** Dancing: ISDF US Open Standard & Latin **2.00** Tennis: US Open **4.00** Survival of the Fittest **4.30** Major League Baseball **6.30** Golf: Mastercard Tour **7.30** Football. Sunderland v Bristol City — Live **10.00** Women's Golf: Safeway Championship **12.00** Fastrax **12.30am** Tennis. US Open — Live **4.00** Sports Centre **4.15** Close

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Wrestling: Live Wire **1.00pm** Fish TV ***2.00*** *Sports Classics* ***3.00*** *Olympic Series* Olympic Destinies **3.30** Fastrax **4.00** Tennis: US Open — Live **10.00** Boxing: Superbouts **11.00** Sportraits **11.30** Close

EUROSPORT

7.30am Motorcycling. Imola Grand Prix **9.00** Tour of Spain **10.00** X Games **11.00** Euro 2000 Qualifying **1.00pm** Touring Car **2.00** Tour of Spain — Live **4.00** Euro 2000 Qualifying **6.00** X Games **7.00** Strongman **8.00** Boxing: IBO International Welterweight Title — Live **10.00** European Championship Legends **11.00** Motorcycling **12.00** X Games **12.30am** Close

UK GOLD

7.00am Crossroads **7.30** Neighbours **7.55** EastEnders **8.30** The Bill **9.00** The Bill **9.30** Bergerac **10.30** The Sullivans **11.00** Dallas **11.55** Neighbours **12.25pm** EastEnders **1.00** All Creatures Great and Small **2.00** Dallas **2.55** The Bill **3.25** The Bill **3.55** Bergerac **4.55** EastEnders **5.30** Angels **6.00** All Creatures Great and Small **7.00** Don't Wait Up **7.40** Dad's Army **8.20** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em **9.00** The Young Ones **9.40** This Life **10.30** NYPD Blue **11.35** The Bill **12.05am** The Bill **12.35** Casualty **1.30** Frankie's House **2.25** Best of Not the Nine O'Clock News **3.00** Shopping

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Box **7.00** The Army Game **7.30** *Please Sir!* ***8.00*** *Me and My Girl* ***8.30*** That's My Boy **9.00** Coronation St **9.30** Emmerdale **10.00** The Avengers **11.00** The Persuaders **12.00** Coronation St **12.30pm** Emmerdale **1.00** Beadle's About **1.30** Watching **2.00** Thomas and Sarah **3.00** The Avengers **4.00** Mission: Impossible **5.00** The Persuaders **6.00** Emmerdale **6.30** Coronation St **7.00** Beadle's About **7.30** Mind Your Language **8.00** The Avengers **9.00** Coronation Street **9.30** Comedians **10.00** Fitz **11.00** Granada Men and Motors



Will Friedle stars as Eric, the big brother who thinks he knows it all in *Boy Meets World* (Disney Channel, 6.30pm)

CARLTON SELECT [CABLE]

5.00pm What's Cooking? **5.30** Gridlock **6.00** London Bridge **6.30** Pull the Other One **7.00** The Upper Hand **7.30** Home to Roost **8.00** Our House **8.30** That's Love **9.00** Love Hurts **10.00** Peak Practice **11.00** Boon **12.00** Let the Blood Run Free **12.30am** Home to Roost **1.00** Close

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Bear in the Big Blue House **6.30** Classic Toons **6.40** Gummi Bears **7.00** Aladdin **7.25** Classic Toons **7.35** 101 Dalmatians **8.00** Goof Troop **8.20** Classic Toons **8.30** Timon & Pumbaa **8.45** Winnie the Pooh **9.00** Spot **9.05** Animal Shell **9.15** Pocket Dragons **9.30** *Bear in the Big Blue* House **9.55** Toothbrush Family **10.15** Tots TV **10.30** Let's Wiggle **10.35** Big Garage **10.50** PB & Jelly Otter **11.00** Sesame St **12.00** Spot **12.05pm** Animal Shell **12.15** Pocket Dragons **12.30** Bear in the Big Blue House **12.55** Toothbrush Family **1.15** Tots TV **1.30** Let's Wiggle **1.35** Big Garage **1.50** PB & Jelly Otter **2.05** Winnie the Pooh **2.30** Quack Pack **3.00** Little Mermaid **3.30** Timon & Pumbaa **3.45** Aladdin **4.15** 101 Dalmatians **4.45** Art Attack **5.00** Smart Guy **5.30** Recess **5.45** Pepper Ann **6.00** Wonder Years **6.30** Boy Meets World **7.00** Brotherly Love **7.30** Student Bodies **8.00 FILM: Just in Time** **9.30** *Home Improvement*

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Power Rangers Turbo **7.00** Mortal Kombat **7.25** Oggy & the Cockroaches **7.30** Donkey Kong Country **8.00** Goosebumps **8.25** Sam & Max **8.35** Beetleborgs Metallix **9.00** Masked Rider **9.25** Incredible Hulk **9.50** Iron Man **10.15** Fantastic Four **10.40** X-Men **11.05** Spiderman **11.30** Life with Louie **11.55** Casper **12.05pm** Ace Ventura **12.30** Eek! **12.42** Mouse & the Monster **12.54** Casper **1.08** Terrible Thunderlizards **1.18** Home to Rent **1.30** Incredible Hulk **1.55** Iron Man **2.20** Fantastic Four **2.45** X-Men **3.10** Spiderman **3.30** Roy & Lisa's Big Ride **3.35** Mortal Kombat **4.00** Hero Turtles: The Next Mutation **4.50** Home to Rent **5.00** Goosebumps **5.25** Eerie, Indiana **5.55** Donkey Kong Country **6.25** Sam & Max **6.50** Eek! **7.00** Close

NICKELODEON

6.00am Fraggle Rock **6.30** Muppet Babies **7.00** Hey Arnold! **7.30** Rugrats **8.00** Doug **8.30** Animals of Farthing Wood **9.00** CBBC **10.00** Wimzie's House **10.30** Babar **11.00** The Magic School Bus **11.30** PB Bear/Towser/Magic Mountain/Clangers **12.00** *Rugrats* **12.30pm** *Blue's Clues* **1.00** Bananas in Pyjamas **1.30** Little Bear Stories **2.00** Rocky and the Dodos/Mr Benn/Mr Men **2.30** Childrens's BBC **3.00** Childrens's BBC **3.30** Angry Beavers **4.00** Hey Arnold! ***4.30*** *Rugrats* ***5.00*** Sister Sister **5.30** Kenan and Kel **6.00** Sabrina the Teenage Witch **6.30** Moesha **7.00** Close

TROUBLE

7.00am On the Make **7.15** What a Life **7.30** Hang Time **8.00** Saved by the Bell: The New Class **8.30** USA High **9.00** Heartbreak High **10.00** Echo Point **10.30** Ready or Not **11.00** On the Make **11.15** What a Life **11.30** California Dreams **12.00** Hollyoaks **12.30pm** Heartbreak High **1.30** Madison **2.00** Echo Point **2.30** No Naked Flames **3.00** Ready or Not **3.30** Hollyoaks **4.00** The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air **4.30** Saved by the Bell: The New Class **5.00** Hang Time **5.30** USA High **6.00** California Dreams **6.30** Bangs **6.45** Rush **7.00** Madison **7.30** The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air **8.00** Close

CHALLENGE TV

5.00pm Crosswits **5.30** Prize Time **5.45** Family Fortunes **6.15** Prize Time **6.30** Catchphrase **7.00** Prize Time **7.15** 100 Per Cent **7.45** Prize Time **7.55** The Crystal Maze **9.00** Prize Time **9.15** Strike it Lucky **9.45** Prize Time **10.00** The Cooler **10.30** Prize Time **10.45** Carnal Knowledge **11.45** Prize Time **12.00** Karaoke Challenge **12.30am** Treasure Hunt **1.30** The Pyramid Game **2.00** Crosswits **2.30** Family Fortunes **3.00** The Cooler **3.30** Blockbusters **4.00** Blade Warriors **5.00** Screenshop

BRAVO

8.00pm The A-Team **9.00** The Basement **9.30** Cops **10.00** Real Stories of the Highway Patrol **10.30** Red Shoe Diaries **11.00 FILM: LA Bounty** **1.00am** Beverly Hills Bordello **1.30** Red Shoe Diaries **2.00** The Basement **2.30** Cops **3.00 FILM: Warlock: The Armageddon** **5.00** Real Stories of the Highway Patrol **5.30** Freaky Stories **6.00am** Close

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Roseanne **7.30** Cosby **8.00** Grace Under Fire **8.30** Spin City **9.00** Ellen **9.30** Seinfeld **10.00** Frasier **10.30** Cheers **11.00** Kenny Everett **11.30** Larry Sanders **12.00** Late Night with David Letterman **1.00am** Saturday Night Live **1.30** Saturday Night Live **2.00** Dr Katz **2.30** Soap **3.00** Kids in the Hall **3.30** Nightstand **4.00** Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Quantum Leap **9.00** Babylon 5 **10.00** Flash Gordon **12.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE

6.00am The Joy of Painting **6.30** The Garden Show **7.00** Bloom **7.30** New Yankee Workshop **8.00** Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures **8.30** Hometime **9.00** The Joy of Painting **9.30** The Garden Show **10.00** Bloom **10.30** New Yankee Workshop **11.00** Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures **11.30** Hometime **12.00** Home Again **12.30pm** Our House Down Under **1.00** Antiques Trail **1.30** Our House **2.00** Classic This Old House **2.30** The Close Guide **3.00** Go Fishing **3.30** This Old House **4.00** Close

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures **4.30** Top Marques **5.00** Flightline **5.30** Jurassica II **6.00** Wildlife SOS **6.30** Savannah Cats **7.30** Mysterious World **8.00** Discover Magazine **9.00** Hitler's Henchmen **10.00** Drills and Spills **11.00** Inside the Octagon. The MG Story **12.00** Flightline **12.30am** Top Marques **1.00** Drills and Spills: Panama Canal **2.00** Close

ANIMAL PLANET

12.00 Redescovery of the World **1.00pm** Wildlife Rescue **1.30** Going Wild with Jeff Corwin **2.00** Australia Wild **2.30** Jack Hanna's Zoo Life **3.00** Kratt's Creatures **3.30** The Dog's Tale **4.30** Kratt's Creatures **5.00** Kratt's Creatures **5.30** Human/Nature **6.30** Rediscovery of the World **7.30** Animal Doctor **8.00** Woof! It's a Dog's Life **8.30** It's a Vet's Life **9.00** Profiles of Nature **10.00** Animal Doctor **10.30** Emergency Vets **11.00** Human/Nature **12.00** Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Gorilla **8.00** Inherit the Sand **8.30** Flight Across the World **9.00** Tribal Warriors The Art of the Warrior **10.00** The Greatest Flight **11.00** Fire! **11.30** Delaware Bay Banquet **12.00** Deep Diving **12.30am** Secret Subs of Pearl Harbour **1.00** Close

TRAVEL [CABLE]

12.00 The Great Escape **12.30pm** On The Horizon **1.00** *Holiday Maker* **1.30** Origins With Burt Wolf **2.00** The Flavours Of France **2.30** Go Portugal **3.00** Reel World **3.30** The People And Places Of Africa **4.00** Go 2 **4.30** Floyd On Spain **5.00** Wild Ireland **5.30** Sports Safaris **6.00** Origins With Burt Wolf ***6.30*** *On Tour* ***7.00*** *The Great Escape* **7.30** On The Horizon **8.00** Travel Live **8.30** Go 2 **9.00** Going Places **10.00** Go Portugal **10.30** Floyd On Spain **11.00** On Tour **11.30** Sports Safaris **12.00** Close

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Great Sea Battles of World War Two **5.00** Our Century: Great Illusions — 1928-1939 **6.00** Ancient Mysteries: Vikings in North America **7.00** *War Crimes* Biography — Idi Amin **8.00** Close

CARLTON FOOD [CABLE]

9.00am Food Network Daily **9.30** Food for Thought **10.00** Chef on a Shoestring **10.30** Planet Nosh **11.00** What's Cooking? **11.30** Coxon's Kitchen College **12.00** Food Network Daily **12.30pm** Ross's Foreign Assignment **1.00** Food for Thought **1.30** So You Think You Can't Cook **2.00** Tessa Bramley's Country Kitchen **2.30** Food Network Daily **3.00** Costa del Nosh **3.30** Coxon's Kitchen College **4.00** First Taste **4.30** The Green Gourmet **5.00** Close

LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living **9.00** Special Babies **9.30** Beyond Belief, Fact or Fiction **10.00** Jerry Springer **10.50** Rolonda **11.40** Brookside **12.10pm** Jimmy's **12.45** Rescue 911 **1.15** Ready, Steady, Cook **1.50** Can't Cook, Won't Cook **2.20** Living it Up! **3.20** Rolonda **4.10** Tempest! **5.00** Ready, Steady, Cook **5.35** Can't Cook, Won't Cook **6.10** Jerry Springer **7.00** Rescue 911 **7.30** Beyond Belief, Fact or Fiction **8.00** Murder Call **9.00 FILM: Colour Me Perfect** **11.00** The Sex Files **12.00** Close

ZEE TV

6.00am Panchayat **6.30** Positive Health Show **7.00** Jaagran **7.30** Daily News **8.00** Shogun Show **8.30** Buniyaad **9.00** Hasratein **10.00** Stage Plays **11.00** Khana Khazana **11.30** Kurukshetra **12.00** FILM **3.00pm** Ham Paanch **3.30** Out and About **4.00** Campus **4.30** Zee Top Ten **5.30** Parampara **6.00** Teacher **6.30** Liberty **7.00** *Jee Saheb* ***7.30*** *Chalo Cinema* ***9.00*** *News* Bulletin **8.30** Daraar **9.00** The A List **9.30** Zanjeeren **10.30** The X Zone **11.30** No Problem **12.00** News Bulletin **12.30am** Pakistan Business Week **1.00** Yehi Hai Zindagi **1.30** Raahat **2.00** FILM **4.30** Kagaz Bao **5.00** Manabi **5.30** Old is Gold



RACING 45

Sea Wave changes course and misses St Leger

SPORT

TENNIS 50

Graf loses her way as new generation comes to the fore



TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8 1998

FA unhappy with coach's delay

Hoddle called to account over contract

BY MATT DICKINSON

GLENN HODDLE avoided persistent questioning over his future as England coach on Saturday evening by abruptly bringing an end to the press conference. No easy escape route will be open to him next week, however, when the Football Association's international committee, alarmed at his dawdling over a contract extension and speculation linking him with Tottenham Hotspur, will demand straighter answers over his career plans.

There is no mood on the committee to oust Hoddle, despite the abject 2-1 defeat against Sweden in the opening European Championship qualifier. They are not in the practice of firing managers, particularly those who are only one game into a new campaign, and Hoddle retains widespread backing at Lancaster Gate.

There is, though, disquiet at his mixed response to the offer of a two-year extension that would take his employment to the World Cup in 2002. The England coach has been in no rush to put pen to paper and the prospect of a lucrative offer by Spurs, among others, has concentrated the minds of several councillors who fear that they could suddenly be left in the lurch were Hoddle to decide that the "impossible job" was causing him more trouble than it was worth.

Some influential figures, suspecting that Hoddle intends to bow out in 2000, have already turned their thoughts to possible successors and they want to know if that search should become a formal one.

Future plans will not be the only issue over which Hoddle faces a grilling on September 18 when he will give his World Cup report to the 14 members of the international committee, which is chaired by Noel White and includes Doug Ellis, chairman of Aston Villa, David Dein, of Arsenal, David Sheepshanks, of Ipswich Town, and Ian Stott, the Oldham Athletic chairman.

High on the agenda will be the controversial World Cup diary for which permission was given directly by Graham Kelly, the FA's chief executive. Such is the displeasure at that public relations disaster that the committee will vote on banning future England coaches from publishing memoirs while in the job.

A clause is likely to be inserted into the next coach's contract to ensure no repeat of the recent fiasco when Hoddle was roundly attacked for breaching confidentiality with players through his diary. He will be asked to explain why he felt it necessary to divulge such detail.

There is also concern at his close links with Eileen Drewery, the faith healer who is paid by the FA to treat members of the England squad. While there is some sympathy with Hoddle's personal beliefs and recognition that certain players have benefited from visits to her, the growing media profile of the former pub landlady is causing concern.

She is planning to write a book that will include details of her work with players such as Tony Adams, Darren Anderton and Ian Wright. Members of the committee are understood to be unhappy that her involvement is distracting attention from the work of the players.



Hoddle: retains backing

It is the question of Hoddle's contract, though, which is most significant. The committee voted before the World Cup to offer Hoddle a two-year extension and the majority are still happy for him to sign it. They believe the ferocious media criticism, while partly self-inflicted, is unfair and not representative of the views of supporters.

Concern is mounting, though, that Hoddle is already making plans to leave in 2000, and could be tempted away even earlier, and councillors are anxious not to be left in the lurch.

Minds have already turned to possible successors with Roy Hodgson the preferred target of some within Lancaster Gate. The Blackburn Rovers manager has vast experience of international football after his time with Internazionale and as coach of the Swiss national side.

Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, who was considered for the job in 1996, would receive strong backing, although one wonders how he would deal with the intense scrutiny that comes with the post.

Arsene Wenger would be opposed by some within Lancaster Gate, who would be reluctant to appoint a foreign coach, and he has only just agreed a new four-year deal at Arsenal. His credentials, though, would be impeccable.

Hoddle will be asked next week to make all such debate irrelevant by stating that he intends to accept the offer of a two-year extension. A powerful body of opinion at the FA, however, believes Hoddle will decline the chance and say that he wants only to look as far as 2000.

By pushing the issue, the FA run the risk of losing him even sooner.

Tottenham are given Graham warning

LEEDS United will demand more than £5 million in compensation if Tottenham Hotspur try to lure George Graham as manager. Graham is on the shortlist of names being considered at White Hart Lane, with Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, the other main target.

Although no official approach has been made to the Leeds board, Peter Ridsdale, the Elland Road chairman, was adamant yesterday that any attempt would be doomed to failure. "George signed a new contract last year which runs until 2001," he said. "Anyone who asks permission to speak to him will be told 'no'."

With Graham, the former Arsenal manager, earning almost £1 million per year, Tottenham would have to pay substantially to lure him back to London. Alan Sugar, the chairman, is understood to want a British manager, though, after the failure of Christian Gross who was sacked on Saturday.

Hoddle's name has also been discussed by the Tottenham board, who know how popular his appointment would be with supporters, and they are currently trying to gauge his happiness in the England job. Joe Kinnear, manager of Wimbledon, is not believed to figure among current options.



Flintoff opens his shoulders to drive Hartley to the long-off boundary during his match-winning half-century at Old Trafford yesterday

Lancashire complete second leg

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

OLD TRAFFORD (Lancashire won toss): Lancashire (4pts) beat Hampshire by 16 runs

LANCASHIRE won another trophy yesterday, when they added the Axa League to the NatWest Trophy they collected at Lord's on Sunday. They defended a score of 202 so admirably that Hampshire, who needed 74 from the last ten overs, with eight wickets intact, ended up 17 runs short.

Fittingly, Wasim Akram took a wicket in his last over in a one-day game on this ground. Today Lancashire are expected to announce that Muttiah Muralitharan will join them next year as their overseas player.

Wasim, together with Peter Martin, strangled the life out of the Hampshire batting after Smith and Kendall had shared a stand of 96 for the third wicket. It was Chapple who dismissed Smith, caught behind as he attempted a pull, but Martin took three wickets on his return to the attack, and Hampshire simply batted out the remaining two overs.

Lancashire's total was a good one on a slow pitch, on which strokeplay was difficult. They could have made many more, for their fourth wicket went down at 160, when Flintoff spooned a full toss to long-on, but they are such masters in limited overs cricket that the men from the south were always up against it.

Flintoff batted superbly for his 69, made from 58 balls with six boundaries and three sixes. Twice he drove Udal down the ground and over the ropes and when McLean, the West Indian fast man, returned, he hooked him high over square leg in a manner that can only be described as Bothamesque. It was a magnificent shot and though he went next over he had played his part, an exceptionally entertaining one. Lloyd, who helped him add 110 for the fourth wicket, went immediately, stumped superbly by Aymes down the leg side. Thereafter it was a bit of a procession. Nobody stayed for long. It was as though, after all the celebrating at Lord's the previous day, they were struggling to maintain an interest in the game. Even the crowd, at a ground that is not known for its sober quality, was subdued. It felt like an end of term affair, which is really what it was.

Hampshire began circumspectly. Stephenson drove Austin to mid-off to give Lancashire an early wicket, and White found a fielder in the same position 21 runs later, but Smith and Kendall were playing with considerable sense as the match entered its decisive stage.

They did not look for big hits. Instead, they were content to push the score along at a steady five runs an over against bowling that was good but occasionally, most obviously in the case of Yates, lacked distinction. This was not the off spinner's day, and Wasim trusted him to bowl only four overs.

Even Austin, who is probably the most reliable bowler of all in one-day cricket, conceded 12 runs from an over, the 31st of the innings — terribly expensive, by his niggardly standards.

At that stage Hampshire were rolling along very nicely and it was a relieved Chapple who found a bottom edge to take Smith's wicket. Two overs later Kendall sliced a full toss to third man and Mascarenhas was comprehensively yorked.

McLean has earned a healthy reputation as a big hitter but the overs were running out when he belted Martin straight and high, only to see Chapple run 30-yards from long-off to hold a two-handed catch of rare brilliance.

Wasim, with the penultimate ball of his last over, beat Keech all ends up, and the game was now over as a contest. Lancashire trooped from the field to accept the cup, and can now prepare for an assault on the county championship, which has two matches to run. Lancashire play Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge before returning home to play Hampshire. Much, of course, rests on the final game at the Oval, between Surrey and Leicestershire, the present leaders. The weather, too, could take a hand.

TABLE

Team (prev)	P	W	L	T	NR	Pts	NRR
Lancs (3)	16	11	2	0	3	50	11.36
Essex (7)	16	9	4	1	2	42	5.53
Warwicks (1)	16	8	5	0	3	38	4.27
Leics (4)	16	8	6	0	2	36	12.36
Hants (15)	16	8	7	0	1	34	1.14
Yorks (10)	16	8	7	0	1	34	-2.40
Kent (2)	16	7	8	0	3	34	2.83
Notts (12)	16	7	7	1	1	32	0.67
Middx (16)	16	7	7	0	2	32	-4.57
Glouc's (11)	16	6	6	0	4	32	-2.60
Worcs (9)	16	6	6	1	3	32	-5.12
Somerset (6)	16	6	7	1	2	30	0.41
Derbys (14)	16	6	7	0	3	30	-3.61
Sussex (18)	16	6	8	0	2	28	-1.03
Glam (13)	16	6	8	0	2	28	-2.15
Northants (8)	16	5	7	1	3	28	-0.11
Durham (17)	16	4	8	1	3	24	-5.01
Surrey (5)	16	2	12	0	2	12	-12.24

OLD TRAFFORD SCOREBOARD

LANCASHIRE

J P Crawley c Udal b Mascarenhas	7
M Chilton b Hartley	30
N H Fairbrother c Aymes b Stephenson	10
G D Lloyd st Aymes b Stephenson	36
A Flintoff c Keech b Mascarenhas	69
*Wasim Akram c and b Mascarenhas	9
†W K Hegg c and b McLean	16
I D Austin run out	7
G Yates not out	4
G Chapple b McLean	1
P J Martin b McLean	2
Extras (b 8, w 7, nb 6)	21
Total (39.4 overs)	202

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-48, 3-50, 4-160, 5-164, 6-182, 7-194, 8-196, 9-200

BOWLING: Connor 8-1-18-0; McLean 7.4-0-39-3; Mascarenhas 8-0-24-3; Hartley 8-0-40-1; Stephenson 6-0-42-2; Udal 4-0-31-0

HAMPSHIRE

G W White c Austin b Wasim	27
J P Stephenson c Wasim b Austin	15
*R A Smith c Hegg b Chapple	44
W S Kendall c Austin b Martin	44
A D Mascarenhas b Martin	9
N A M McLean c Chapple b Martin	3
M Keech b Wasim	10
†A N Aymes not out	8
S D Udal not out	2
Extras (b 2, lb 7, w 8, nb 6)	24
Total (7 wkts, 40 overs)	186

C A Connor and P J Hartley did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-32, 2-53, 3-149, 4-158, 5-162, 6-172, 7-179.

BOWLING: Austin 8-0-30-1; Martin 8-1-41-3; Chapple 8-0-29-1; Wasim Akram 8-0-34-2; Flintoff 4-0-18-0; Yates 4-0-25-0.

Umpires: D J Constant and P Willey

Knee operation for Croft

ROBERT CROFT, the England all-rounder, is to have knee surgery today in the hope he will then be fit for the start of this winter's Ashes tour.

Croft will miss the remaining matches of Glamorgan's season to correct the complaint, which was diagnosed as a tiny cartilage tear following a scan which led to him sitting out yesterday's AXA League game in Durham.

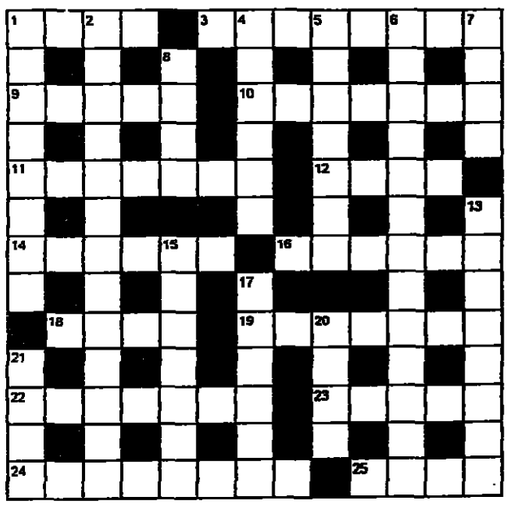
And although the short- term prognosis was good, the club's medical advisers consulted with England management officials and felt it was sensible to correct the defect now as the team departs for Australia within six weeks.

Glamorgan cricket secretary Mike Fatkin said: "Obviously this is disappointing coming on top of what has been an unbelievable summer from the point of view of player injuries.

"But with the amount of cricket which Robert has ahead of him this winter and on into the World Cup during the first half of next summer, it is important for him and for the England management to have the problem sorted out as soon as possible.

"It comes as another blow to us, but it is in Robert's longer-term interest to be fully fit in time for the tour to Australia and we felt that this was the most important factor."

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1505

ACROSS
1 Company emblem (4)
3 Adolescent (8)
9 Newly made; cold (wind) (5)
10 Allspice (7)
11 A city: a US president (7)
12 Brought into existence (4)
14 China clay (6)
16 A showy perennial (6)
18 Capital of Norway (4)
19 Pablo —, C20 artist (7)
22 Suitcases: a trollop (7)
23 Give one's view (5)
24 Wind from Continent (8)
25 I've spilled it! (4)

DOWN
1 Resembling the real person (8)
2 Global-warming air pollutant (10,3)
4 Lay out, use up (6)
5 Windhoek its capital (7)
6 President/supreme commander rank (13)
7 A bird; to swindle (4)
8 Go away! (4)
13 Noble lady (8)
15 Post-Bronze period (4,3)
17 Attraction; request to umpire (6)
20 Cut (eg wood); cut of pork (4)
21 A reed instrument (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1504
ACROSS: 1 Paris 4 Fiddler 8 Unsavoury 9 Bap 10 Beer 11 Skittles 13 Matter 14 Inbred 17 Daiquiri 19 Roof 22 Lac 23 Axiomatic 24 Risotto 25 Torus
DOWN: 1 Plumb 2 Respect 3 Save 4 Flunky 5 Dry-stone 6 Libel 7 Reposed 12 Petulant 13 Modular 15 Rooster 16 Orsino 18 Incus 20 Focus 21 Emit

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BY RAYMOND SNOOTH AND JASON NISSE

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The deal ... which will be ... Office of Fair ... most lucrative ... sports club ... rival bid was ... after Time Warner ... can media ... said to be ... offer from ... group Enic ... the running to ...

Less than ... Martin Edwards, ... United's chief ... willing to sell ... £30 million. ... who owns 14 per ... shares, now ... about £85 ... BSkyB acquisition.

The deal was ... after a day of ... tions in which ... rose from 23p ... while United ... from 20½p to ... increased ... nied by an ... unless the deal ... 5pm, the offer ... drawn and ... purchase would ...

The deal will be ... on the Stock ... morning and ... that Alex Ferguson, ... manager, will ... BSkyB acquisition ... match against Charlton ... letic tonight.

BSkyB — in which ... International, owner ... Times, has a 40 per cent ...

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LETTERS 19
OBITUARIES 21
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ARTS 30-32
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COURT & SOCIAL 20
BUSINESS 23-27
HOMES 35
LAW REPORT 34

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